



EURASIA FOUNDATION

YEAR END REPORT



Fiscal Year 2009

October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2009

Presented to the
U.S. Agency for International Development
by Eurasia Foundation

EMT-G-00-02-00008-00

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	3
INTRODUCTION.....	5
DEVELOPMENT UPDATE.....	11
PROGRAMMING ACTIVITIES.....	17
SOUTH CAUCASUS—EURASIA PARTNERSHIP FOUNDATION (EPF).....	23
CENTRAL ASIA—EURASIA FOUNDATION OF CENTRAL ASIA (EFCA).....	27
RUSSIAN FEDERATION—NEW EURASIA FOUNDATION (FNE)	30
EVALUATIONS AND RESULTS.....	33
CAPACITY MAPPING INITIATIVE	37
APPENDICES.....	41

INTRODUCTION

OVERVIEW

In fiscal year 2009 Eurasia Foundation (EF) moved closer to launching a foundation in Moldova adding another strong branch to the Eurasia Foundation Network; we raised more than \$10 million from non-US government sources; and, on top of \$8.2 million in core funds, we won more than \$700,000 in competitive awards from the US government for our programs, which are flourishing.

We have created a unique network in the Eurasia region comprising local foundations that are governed by committed boards, managed by capable presidents, and operated by able staff. Our partners have already emerged as leaders in fields – such as **Local Economic Development, Strengthening Public Policy and Administration and Engaging Youth** - that are essential to the growth of prosperity and stability in the region. As the materials in this End of Year Report demonstrate, Eurasia Foundation Network programs in the past year have benefited tens of thousands of citizens throughout the region and have led to the creation of thousands of jobs and hundreds of businesses.

After 17 years of operations, Eurasia Foundation (EF) programs are more diverse, and more needed, than ever before. For example, in countries that are more economically advanced, we are leaders in supporting the expansion of corporate philanthropy and helping to protect the rights of labor migrants drawn to local economic opportunities. Across the region we support increased citizen participation in local government and equitable allocation of economic and social development resources. We support local print media capable of insightful coverage of local events. We also support a broad range of initiatives that stimulate the growth of small and medium businesses, a broad range of initiatives that stimulate the growth of small and medium businesses, whether in the field of innovation, tourism or agribusiness. Because of this track record **we have been able to leverage our core support for our partner foundations to attract millions of dollars in non-US government sources for our programs.** For example, in Russia New Eurasia Foundation raised \$790,000 from a Russian corporation to conduct social development programs in the regions where the company is active, and in Kazakhstan, Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia received \$384,000 from a Kazakh philanthropist to start the process of transforming a Kazakh university into a world-class educational institution. The EFN network works closely within its partnership to finance programs and to initiate cross-border programs which will benefit the entire region.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Eurasia Foundation Network partners are local leaders in encouraging youth to become involved in their communities as well as engaging the region's next generation of leaders. EFN partners are working with youth to bring about **positive change in their communities and develop leadership skills**. In the South Caucasus Eurasia Partnership Foundation (EPF) in conjunction with the Community Foundation of Northern Ireland has implemented a **YouthBank** program. **YouthBank** creates opportunities for youth-led groups to address social needs, participate as active citizens in their communities and develop professional governance and management skills through capacity-building exercises and practice experience operating a small grants program that directly supports youth-led initiatives in their communities.

In Ukraine, the East Europe Foundation (EEF) in partnership with OSCE, implemented the **Local Economic Development (LEAD)** program to stimulate economic development and job creation. LEAD helps local partners resolve problems using local resources, providing assistant with a combination of grants, networking opportunities and technical assistance. Over the past five years, Eurasia Foundation and EEF have invested more than \$750,000, **helped 14 regions of Ukraine create almost 2,700 new jobs and start over 1,200 new businesses**.

The EFN **Labor Migration** program began in Russia in 2005. In Russia, the New Eurasia Foundation (FNE) migration program aims to improve communication among governmental bodies, businesses and NGOs to address migration-related problems. In collaboration with the Federal Migration Service, other NGOs and independent experts, FNE is designing a system for monitoring migration trends into Russia and **introducing effective models for social adaptation and integration of migrants into local communities**.

In the Kyrgyz Republic, Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia's (EFCA) **Open Budget** program increases citizen oversight of government spending and **helps governments better allocate resources**. The program has worked with government representatives, local administrators and civil society organizations in 11 communities and enabled dozens of people in each community to attend budget hearings and receive training on the budgeting process. In one budget hearing, the community voted to reallocate funds toward equipping schools and providing professional development training for teachers.

Eurasia Foundation is in its second year of supporting the **Online Women and Entrepreneurship** program, an online distance learning program for entrepreneurial young women in Iran and throughout the Eurasia region. The program offers English and Persian language training in finance, marketing, business plan development and e-commerce.

The second class of the **Bill Maynes Fund for Future Leaders of Eurasia** was successfully selected and the fellows, Nadine Gogu of the Independent Journalism Center in Chisinau, Moldova and Roza Abdullayaeva founder of the NGO Bereke based in the southern Kazakhstan city of Shimken, completed their three-week fellowships in the United States. The goal of the fellowships is to support the achievements and further strengthen the professional capabilities of emerging leaders in the countries where we work.

The program for the Bill Maynes fellows was customized to fit their specific interests such as promoting independent and impartial media, gender equality, labor migration and youth skills development. Additionally, the program included meetings with DC and New York-based organizations, members of the US government, and public speaking events. Ms. Gogu was hosted by the International Center for Journalists and Ms. Abdullayaeva spent time with the Center for Development and Population Activities.

A further addition this year was the **2009 Bill Maynes Award** honoring participants from institutions supported by Eurasia Foundation. Dr. Valentin Zelenyuk, professor at the Kyiv School of Economics in Ukraine and Dr. Sergei Guriev, Morgan Stanley professor of economics and rector of the New Economic School in Moscow participated in a four-day program designed to promote their institutions and included speaking engagements and meetings with members of the US government.

More information on the specific programs of EF's partner foundations can be found in the section "Programming Activities" beginning on page 17, and more details on the sources and uses of non-US government funds raised to date can be found in Appendix D beginning on page 47.

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE



DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Eurasia Foundation raised and leveraged **more than \$10 million this fiscal year**. Of the committed funds, 82% will flow through EF Network accounts; 18% are leveraged funds that will be delivered to independent organizations established by Eurasia Foundation.

The following table represents the total fundraising from non-US government donors, organized by region of impact of donations:

**FY09 Funds Raised and Leveraged
(Non-USG Sources)**

Foundation	Committed Funds	Pending Proposals
Eurasia Partnership Foundation (South Caucasus)	\$2,704,343	\$3,171,874
Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia	\$2,408,993	\$964,962
East Europe Foundation-Ukraine	\$332,859	\$1,263,750
New Eurasia Foundation (Russia)	\$1,638,913	\$2,150,000
Eurasia Foundation-DC	\$2,965,478	\$7,992,425
TOTAL	\$10,045,909	\$15,543,011

***Ukraine only. Funds raised for Belarus and Moldova flow through EF-DC.**

Donor commitments for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova in FY 09 total nearly \$2.1 million.

Trends

- **Eurasia Foundation Network Collaboration**

In April, EF-DC established a development task force consisting of development staff from all five EF Network foundations. The purpose of the task force is to coordinate and execute fundraising plans throughout the Network.

- **Local foundations continue to post impressive fundraising numbers.** Partner foundations raised over \$7 million. The local foundations have deepened their relations with many key donors, including the European Union and local corporations.

Highlights by Region

Eurasia Partnership Foundation

The European Commission has committed \$750,000 to support an investigative journalism project in Georgia. This is EPF's first large award from the European Commission.

Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia

EFCA received more than \$160,000 from Kazakhstan's local cell phone operator, K-Cell, to support the foundation's Youth Bank program. Verny Capital gave EFCA nearly \$400,000 to improve the strategic management and education capacity of the Kazakh Economic University.

East Europe Foundation

East Europe Foundation received \$150,000 from Telenor to support several projects including promoting equal access for the disabled in public areas and encouraging the use of environmentally friendly energy technologies.

New Eurasia Foundation

In September New Eurasia Foundation was awarded \$600,000 by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation to implement the program *Mainstreaming Civic and Community Engagement into Social Development*. This award will enable FNE to build upon its successes in the community schools and community universities programs.

Eurasia Foundation-DC

In Moldova, Eurasia Foundation's regional office was awarded more than \$180,000 by the European Commission to support free and fair parliamentary elections in 2009. This month the Swedish government will sign a \$2.5 million award to support the local foundation in Moldova.

New Eurasia Establishment received more than \$200,000 from the European Commission to improve local economic development of rural communities in Belarus.

Eurasia Foundation-DC was awarded \$100,000 from Chevron to conduct an assessment for future activities in Turkmenistan.

Non-Core US Government Awards

In addition to the non-U.S. government fundraising listed, EEF was pledged nearly **\$300,000** from Pact to strengthen civil society in Ukraine. Supplementary funding from USAID will likely raise the award to nearly \$600,000.

In FY 09 EF submitted three proposals requesting nearly \$3 million in new USG funding for our Iran and China programs.

EF Network Campaigns

A reframing of the Network's programmatic activities into broad based campaigns has been adopted throughout the Network. The three campaigns are Youth Engagement, Local Economic Development and Strengthening Public Policy and Administration. The goal of these campaigns is to raise \$15 million over the next five years from private sources.

- **Youth Engagement**

- Young adults throughout Eurasia face many educational, cultural and social hurdles. Youth, particularly in rural areas, have few opportunities to actively participate in political and social spheres in their communities. Eurasia Foundation's youth initiatives help empower and engage young people and provide opportunities for the region's next generation of leaders.

- **Local Economic Development**

- The opening of borders in the former Soviet Union has created many economic opportunities for workers who are willing to migrate to find jobs, particularly in Russia. However, these migrants often face significant hardships while working abroad including, abuse and exploitive working conditions. Eurasia Foundation works with locally registered NGOs to offer Russian language training, job placement services, migrant rights workshops and basic financial planning services. Our network also works with local and regional governments to promote policies that support the rights of labor migrants.

- **Strengthening Public Policy and Administration**

- Research and resource centers play a key role in producing data that is used to make informed decisions by policy makers, international organizations and local policy research communities. The Caucasus Research and Resource Centers in the South Caucasus is a model for the Network as is the research element of the Kyiv School of Economics.

PROGRAMMING ACTIVITIES

Belarus

One of EF's most successful projects is the **Development of Legal Advocacy in Belarus through the Student Legal Clinics** project, which is part of the **Empowering Civil Society** program. Through this project, EF supports student legal clinics housed at the law faculties of several Belarusian universities. The project provides pro bono legal services to vulnerable populations in Belarus. It also gives law students a unique training opportunity. In each of the communities where the clinics are operating, **the number of legal aid services provided to the local communities has increased significantly**. In addition to the services provided by the students, several of the clinics have introduced training and awareness programs for their communities. These programs are a part of EF's project on institutional development of legal clinics, which implement programs relevant to their communities.



In spring, 20 Belarusian students from EHU visited the European Parliament in Strasbourg

In 2009, EF continued its project with the European Humanities University **Institutional Support and Distance-Learning Development at EHU-International**. As a result of this project, **1,125 students have engaged in study through the distance learning program (DL)** and external degree programs in humanities. For the 2009 academic year, **the University admitted 402 new students reaching a total number of 1,068 students**. Both degree and non-degree DL programs at EHU have been developed and expanded. Furthermore, EHU's institutional, administrative and management capacities improved significantly. Today, EHU has a new vision of university development, including new approaches to fundraising and improved administrative

routines.

Aimed at increasing the capacities of Belarusian business professionals, educators, practitioners and the public at large by providing high-quality economic and business education, the **Business and Economic Education** program, has contributed considerably to making Belarusian degrees more marketable. The program also greatly supports the development of the Belarusian private business sector. It has enhanced public access to objective information and promoted the ideas of private entrepreneurship, liberty and civic initiatives. As part of the program, EF hosted four MBA alumni forums on the role of young educated managers in society's development. **The initiative was so successful that it was expanded to other regions of Belarus and to the lower strata of the business community**. As a result, EF launched the **Belarusian Regional Business Training and Education** project, co-funded by the Royal Norwegian MFA.

Under the **Business and Economic Education** program, Kyiv Regional Office (KRO) also supports a partnership between the Institute of Business Management Technologies at Belarus State University and the Riga School of Business under the project entitled **Developing Capacity in Management of International Cooperation in Belarus**. Through EF's support, an advanced "International Management Collaboration" (IMC) training program has been developed and delivered for top Belarusian managers and executives. Managers trained in IMC improved the profitability of their businesses and enhanced their ability to more competently cooperate with their Western counterparts. In addition, the newly created **Belarusian Economic Research and Outreach Center** managed by EF provides Belarusian undergraduate students, faculty, scholars and policymakers with access to quality economic analysis, expertise and knowledge. It contributes to the modernization of economic analysis in Belarus by attracting Western trained Belarusian economists, stimulating exchange of knowledge related to the Belarusian economy and serving as a gathering place for all Belarusian economists.

Moldova

During the 2009 Parliamentary Elections, EF's office in Moldova conducted a series of activities designed to promote free and fair elections. As part of the **Coalition 2009** project, these activities were possible thanks to the support from Sida, USAID, the British Government and the European Commission. Through a variety of non-partisan, objectively designed activities, the foundation ensured that the elections were free of fraud and corruption. The program implementers closely monitored adherence to electoral procedures in all polling stations. Moreover, domestic and international media observers noted that public TV in Moldova improved coverage of the elections by giving more air time to opposition parties. As a result of the project, **voters had a better understanding of and trust in the elections process, the media shifted towards more balanced reporting, and the overall administration of elections significantly improved.**

Checking voting procedure in Moldova



Under the **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** program with the support of Philip Morris, EF **provided disaster relief for over 15,000 inhabitants in 28 communities that suffered as a result of the summer 2008 flood in Moldova.** As part of this program, EF provided assistance to a school cafeteria in Drepcauti village, repaired a water-pipe system in Gura Bacului village, restored a children's art school in Lipcani, installed new windows in a school in Trifauti village, and re-built roads in Criva village.

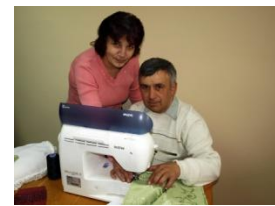
Under the **Institutional Support to Anticorruption Alliance** project, EF developed and published a study titled **"Declaration on revenues and assets of state officials, judges, prosecutors, public servants: problems and perspectives for Republic of Moldova"**. Through this study, EF offers an in-depth assessment of the principle of income transparency in Moldova and nearby locations. **The results of the study show that many state bodies responsible for controlling this sector are still resistant to civil society's efforts to increase transparency in the country.** The study offers a series of lessons learned and recommendations that will help improve the situation in controlling and declaring the incomes and fortunes of public officials. The results of the study have been presented and debated in a roundtable discussion with involvement of

main stakeholders, including representatives of the State Anti-Corruption Agency (CCCEC), the Ministry of Finance, NGOs, and representatives of mass media.

Ukraine – East Europe Foundation (EEF)

Energy independence is one of the central issues on the Ukrainian government's agenda. That is why in June, 2009, EEF launched the **Municipal Partnerships for Better Energy Use** program, which aims to stimulate innovative and participatory solutions to increase energy efficiency. As part of the project, EEF conducted a grants competition among NGOs in three Ukrainian regions and the Crimean autonomous republic. The foundation received 23 proposals and selected seven. Most notably, **EEF piloted two energy saving projects that introduced modern energy saving technologies** such as meters, timers, data counters, temperature control panels and software to monitor consumption. These initiatives achieved **energy savings between 12 and 30 percent**. In addition, **over 850 local officials, representatives from communal enterprises and NGOs received training**. Such a high turnout signifies a general understanding of the importance of energy saving and the relevance of this program.

In June 2009, EEF completed the **Sustainable Solutions for People with Disabilities program**, which aimed to increase employment and business opportunities for people with disabilities in Lviv Oblast. In partnership with Lviv Oblast Employment Center, EEF awarded three grants to NGOs that undertook a number of activities over the course of six-seven months. The activities were tailored to the specific needs of the local employers. These needs were identified by the grantees through surveys of potential employers. Based upon the findings, the grantees carried out **educational and professional trainings, organized job fairs for jobseekers and potential employers, and provided legal, informational and psychological consultations to over 700 participants**. More importantly, over the course of the program, **24 participants secured employment** while the rest of the participants gained skills that will help them find jobs.



Receiving training in Pustomyty, Ukraine

One of EEF's the most successful endeavors is the **Community Centers for Elderly Citizens program**, which is entering its third year as it moves across the country's Poltavaska, Zaporozhia and Sumska Oblasts. Last year, three organizations received grants from EEF and successfully completed their projects. While most of the activities for seniors are recreational in nature, the grantees also organize various trainings, including computer and life-skills trainings and offer individual services to seniors. These projects have proven to be very popular and have generated support from local organizations and state offices.



Kremenchuk's Community Development Foundation secured funding of approximately \$8,500 from the local municipal budget for 2009. Over 500 people regularly visit clubs organized by the grantees and the numbers are growing. Due to its success and relevance, EEF is expanding the program to award 4-6 grants next year.

EEF continues to develop its "Eco News" feature on the Eco-Ukraine website (www.eco-ukraine.org.ua). This web-resource helps EEF raise its visibility as a source of expertise on environmental and energy efficiency issues. The eco-news feature is distributed on a weekly basis as

part of the CSR in Ukraine bulletin with a link to the Eco-Ukraine website. The Eco-Ukraine website is updated regularly and consists of news from the CSR bulletin and other useful information collected from different public resources. Last year, CSR saw a **5% increase in the number of monthly unique visitors as well as an increase in the number of subscribers to the bulletin**. EEF's CSR website continues to remain number one CSR website in Ukraine. EEF will continue to publicize its eco-Ukraine project to demonstrate interest in this sphere and articulate successes and approaches to businesses and other interested parties.

In August, 2009, with support from OSCE and oblast councils, EEF launched the **Innovations in E-Governance** program as part of its **Effective Governance** initiative, which helps public administrators respond to citizens' needs and protect their rights. **The program is one of the most forward-thinking projects under the initiative as it aims to enhance the effectiveness of local governments via introduction of innovative communication technologies.** Program activities included the development of web-sites for local and regional governments as well as design and installation of software at the local councils with a series of relevant trainings for local and regional council employees. All of the activities are widely distributed to citizens who benefit from gaining access to the government agenda and work.

South Caucasus—Eurasia Partnership Foundation (EPF)

Armenia

EPF continues to promote neighborly relations between Armenia and Turkey under the **Armenia – Turkey Cross-Border Dialogue and Cooperation** program. Given the importance of engaging the general public in normalizing bilateral relations, EPF designs projects that promote objectivity in the media and bring people together in open discussions. In light of signing the Protocol on Establishment of Diplomatic Relations and Protocol on Development of Bilateral Relations between the two countries, EPF and the International Center for Human Development (ICHD) organized a series of Town Hall Meetings in Armenia. **Attended by over 1,300 people in seven cities, the meetings gave the participants an opportunity to voice their opinion, ask questions and get answers on the matter.**

To strengthen the right to freedom of expression, EPF with support from the British Embassy in Armenia, arranged and **implemented a series of talk shows entitled “Article 27: the Right to Freedom of Expression.”** The talk shows brought in different people to discuss important public issues. From documentary filmmakers and intellectuals to students and people from provinces, the participants **demonstrated how to constructively express their views and argue about such topics in public.** More importantly, anyone could participate in the discussions by providing their feedback through phone calls and the Internet. These comments were presented, analyzed and used in designing subsequent shows. Overall, **the series generated unprecedented feedback from over 6,000 viewers in Yerevan.** Additionally, the shows were broadcast in other regions of Armenia. **The scale and success of the show has inspired the foundation to conduct similar projects in the future.**



Poster for the “Article 27: the Right to Freedom of Expression” talk show series

On the migratory labor front, this year Migration and Return Resource Centers (MRRC) continued to serve as resource centers in their communities. From March 16-20, 2009, representatives from four MRRCs participated in a three-day study tour to Omsk, Russian Federation to examine the current status of migration in light of the economic crisis and migration-related legislation changes in Russia. The organizers chose Omsk due to the presence of over 50,000 Armenian migrants. Omsk also has a reputation among migrants and their families as a city that offers work opportunities with observance of binding labor laws. **The MRRC delegation held meetings with local employment agencies, representatives of the Armenian Diaspora, businesses, and migrants.** Participants also prepared a TV program during the study visit about the difficulties and expected problems of migration. The program was broadcast on local TV in Martuni.

In June 2009, EPF took a further step in its development of the Corporate Social Investment program as it introduced a number of Armenian businesses to sustainability reporting. The idea of value reporting where an organization publicly communicates their economic, environmental and social performance is new to Armenian entrepreneurs. However, development with concern for future generations is crucial to long-term well-being of any country. This is why

EPF, in cooperation with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), organized a half-day orientation workshop on indicators and international guidelines of sustainability reporting. The participants suggested that the idea be further spread among local businesses. The leading expert on GRI was invited to lead mirror workshops in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia.

Azerbaijan

In June, 2009, EPF completed its two-year long **Islam in a Democratic Azerbaijan (IDA) program** that advanced the role of religious communities and their leaders in building democratic principles and values. Within this program, **EPF supported the production and broadcasting of four television shows on Azerbaijan's Public Television (PTV)**, including one talk show. In addition to publishing the fifth expanded issue of the *Unsıyyat* bulletin and delivering eight extracurricular seminars for students of Baku Islamic University (BIU), EPF also finalized work on three fellowships awarded to students of Islam and democracy. Moreover, by convening 18 discussion group meetings featuring a well-known journalist and scholar of Islam **Mr. Natig Rahimov**, EPF, once again, managed to bring the national dialogue on compatibility of democracy and Islam to a higher level.

Through its **Corporate Social Investment (CSI)** program, EPF is still the driving force behind the spreading culture of philanthropy among businesses in Azerbaijan. With **ten more organizations and five individuals joining the CSI network in the past year**, EPF



CSI members gather at the head office of AccessBank

demonstrates the relevance and importance of the program's activities. In May, EPF **organized the fourth Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) study tour to AccessBank** as part of its CSI program. Members of the Azerbaijan CSI network gathered at the head office of AccessBank to learn about the social investment activities of their counterparts from the Bank and obtained information regarding the implementation progress of CSR initiatives in Azerbaijan. Other **participants at this meeting included representatives of well-known national and multinational companies, associations and nonprofit organizations in Azerbaijan**, including Qarant Insurance, International Bank of Azerbaijan, AMCHAM, Transparency International, Express Group and KCA Deutag. Representatives of the press also took part in the meeting, most notably journalists from the Trend and Turan agencies and Caspian Business News service.

As part of the **Transparency in Municipal Service Delivery** program that aims to strengthen the capacities of Azerbaijani municipalities, EPF held a small-scale grants competition among 20 municipalities. EPF provided the participants with comprehensive information about the program and training on municipal development, transparency, and accountability in budget formation. Moreover, EPF organized **public hearings in 20 municipalities with over 850 attending community members**. Using the Municipal Performance Measurement System (MPMS) and taking into account the concerns of citizens voiced during the public hearings, **16 project proposals were submitted to EPF and six of them received grants**.

Following their mission to empower youth, Azerbaijan's **Youth Funds** had another successful year with **14 new youth-led projects implemented throughout April and May**.

Furthermore, several YF members were nominated and **four were selected to be part of the Youth Leadership delegation from Azerbaijan as part of the "Open World" Program** implemented by the U.S. Embassy in Azerbaijan and the American Council for International Education. The “Open World” program was established by the U.S. Congress to promote mutual understanding among the countries of Eurasia, the Baltic States and the United States by enabling leaders to meet with their American counterparts and share ideas and expertise in the subjects and issues most important to both parties. From May 28 – June 09, 2009 these YF members visited the U.S.

On June 30th 2009, EPF hosted an awards ceremony to celebrate 12 YF members, who successfully completed the Training of Trainers (ToT) certification project at the Caucasus Research and Resource Center in Azerbaijan. In addition, EPF also presented the 32 most active YF members with Honorary Diplomas for their active participation in the YF program and for their efforts in youth engagement. Most notably, Gunay Gasimova a member of Sahil YF Committee was chosen as a finalist for the Education Program implemented by the Italian Embassy in Azerbaijan. Gunay had an opportunity to study at a well known Italian university for three months. During the exchange program, she studied the Italian language and conducted research on international affairs.

Georgia

On April 1, 2009, building upon the *Participatory Civic Monitoring* program, EPF Georgia launched **the Engage and Monitor for Change program**. The project aims to foster vigorous and **better-informed participation of the Georgian community groups, NGOs and media outlets in local political and economic decision-making**. EPF has **supported six organizations as they engage in civic monitoring**, contributing to more transparent decision-making and participatory budget formulation within their communities. EPF also continued to emphasize collaboration between civil society groups and the media to promote the role of the media as a civic watchdog. Over the last year, two EPF grantees—the Center for Training and Consultancy (CTC) and the International Center for Civic Culture (ICCC)—**trained 35 civil society representatives in monitoring and advocacy**; meanwhile in June, EPF conducted a training of trainers for 25 civil society activists from Eastern and Western Georgia.

Youth Bank in Georgia was set up as an example of an independent and sustainable project. Over the last year, Youth Bank committees continued to demonstrate increased engagement with their communities without EPF funding or oversight. For instance, in July, Marneuli Youth Bank members organized an event to educate their community about the risks of smoking. Fifty young people distributed brochures on the health risks of smoking. . The event was broadcast on Marneuli TV.

Moreover, **the Youth Banks in Batumi and Marneuli maintain close ties with the local government and businesses and recently managed to secure financial support from them** towards some of their micro-grant initiatives. The foundation prepared a short film about the Youth Bank program and an accompanying booklet. EPF is currently producing a pamphlet about the program’s civic monitoring activities. The pamphlet will be published and distributed among donors, the board and other stakeholders.



Youth Banks in Georgia are becoming more sustainable and independent

The foundation's youth empowerment mission has moved **beyond the country's borders as EPF and a youth volunteer support organization Theodor-Heuss-Kolleg (THK) signed an agreement to establish a strategic partnership** throughout the Caucasus. Entitled *Getting Involved: Strengthening Civic Engagement among Young People*, the partnership builds on EPF's existing Youth Bank programs across the South Caucasus and THK's experience in civic education throughout the CIS region and Southern Europe.

In May 2009, 10 young people from Georgia between the ages of 16- 25 took part in a training seminar in Akahltikhe, Samtskhe-Javakheti with trainers from THK. During the seminar, **participants designed 11 projects, including two cross-border projects.** To date, EPF Georgia has funded five projects submitted by Georgian participants.

Central Asia—Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia (EFCA)

Kazakhstan

In February, 2009 EFCA ran the final training session for NGOs in Astana as part of the **Strengthening Civil Society in Astana** program. In an effort to create new and strengthen existing NGOs in Kazakhstan's developing capital, EFCA has conducted eight **institutional training sessions for representatives from 40 NGOs**. Participants of the training sessions familiarized



ECOLite's theatrical demonstration on environmentalism

themselves with the basic principles of NGO work, the creation of effective teams, and how to set up advocacy campaigns. As a result of EFCA's efforts, **eight new NGOs focusing on civil society development have been opened in Astana**. Moreover, throughout the implementation of the project the participants initiated small projects and campaigns using the knowledge they gained from the trainings. For example, a newly established NGO "ECOLite" in cooperation with other participating NGOs organized a theatrical performance on environmentalism. **Fifty volunteers took part while local media representatives covered the event**, thus bringing the general public's attention to environmental issues.

In February, 2009 EFCA held a seminar entitled **Support of Family Groups at Risk**, which focused on building effective models for the early exposure of family problems and the prevention of child abandonment. The seminar led a **training program for fifty-five NGO specialists, government officials and directors of orphanages who were instructed in social orphanage prevention methodologies**. The organizations used these methodologies during roundtables and training for government officials who work with children in each of the five regions. The Vice-chairman of the Children Rights Protection Committee was informed about the activities implemented by non-profit organizations in the sphere of providing services to at-risk families. Also, models for government and NGO collaboration toward social orphanage prevention were drafted. Ultimately, **four hundred toolkits for individuals and the organizations that work with orphans were published and distributed**.

After a successful launch of a Resource Center for Artisans (RCA) in Shymkent, EFCA opened another such center in the Eastern Kazakhstan Oblast of Ust-Kamenogorsk. While the RCA in Shymkent is conducting master classes, *Kazakh artisans making rugs at RCA*

training sessions, and exhibition fairs on handicraft production, EFCA in Ust-Kamenogorsk signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the oblast department of trade and entrepreneurship. EFCA organized training sessions bringing together artisans from the oblasts of East Kazakhstan, South Kazakhstan, Akmola, in addition to two artisans from Uralsk and Almaty. The artisans were trained on working with ceramics, wood, felt and embroidery, leather, textile, and carpet weaving.



Following the success of EPF's Youth Bank program in the South Caucasus, EFCA signed a cooperation agreement with GSM Kazakhstan/K'cell Company to launch a joint project entitled **Youth Bank Activ**. The program is aimed at providing young people in Kazakhstan with opportunities to develop professionally as well as give back to their communities. EFCA and K'cell established Youth Banks in four cities—Uralsk, Kostanai, Ust-Kamenogorsk and Taraz. Although a young initiative, Youth Bank has already **recruited and trained 28 members**. An experienced trainer from the Northern Ireland Community Foundation — the creator of the Youth Bank model — **conducted workshops on leadership, organizational and financial management, project evaluation and monitoring**. In August, the participants had an opportunity to apply the newly gained skills as the Youth Bank in Ust-Kamenogorsk organized a promotional concert for the local youth.

Kyrgyzstan

The **Central Asia News Service** program (CANS) with support from the U.S. State Department has been widening its audience and improving the quality of news and analysis. As 41 journalists continue writing for the network, people from the Eurasian region and beyond receive objective, fact-based news. **About 80 percent of all articles do not require any corrections while 25 percent employ more than one reliable source** in order to present the most weighted information. Last year, CANS successfully publish over 100 analytical articles. These achievements are appreciated by the audience as the **number of subscribers doubled and the average number of unique monthly visitors reached 55,000 over the last six months**.

It has been year and a half since the launch of the **Integration of Religious Education in Civil Society** program in Kyrgyzstan, and the project is making considerable progress. Since March 2009, the program has expanded its focus beyond Islamic education institutions to include wider religious institutions and emphasize engagement between religious institutions and a wider civil society. The program also works towards building a stronger legal framework that would secure religious education's integration into civil society. To promote modern teaching techniques and experience-sharing among secular and religious schools, the project implementers conducted a five-day training on the innovative methods of teaching for 20 representatives from six madrasas, eight general education schools, located next to the madrasas and three Christian schools.

To advance transparency and quality of higher education in Kyrgyzstan, EFCA launched in February, 2009, the **Improving the Quality of Higher Education Initiative**. As an extension of the 2008 program, this initiative continues building the capacity of Student Bodies in the universities of Kyrgyzstan to address student needs, assess and improve transparency and the quality of education. In March, 2009, EFCA in cooperation with EdNet held **a conference, where school administration, youth and student activists learned about the project's early phase and its findings, which**



Kyrgyz students gain access to information on institutions of higher education

revealed a number of corruption-related problems at six pilot universities. Fifty-five students received training in strategic planning, teambuilding, academic quality assessment, and internal and external models of quality assurance. In addition, EFCA and EdNet organized an

Education Fair, which allowed prospective students and their parents to explore their options and decide which university to attend.

Tajikistan

While the economic crisis negatively affected the entire region of Eurasia, labor migration from Tajikistan has not ceased. However, in this environment the importance of understanding one's rights while in another country is ever increasing. To advance the capacity of Tajik labor migrants to protect their rights and maximize the economic benefits of migration, EFCA's office in Dushanbe implemented the **Labor Migration** program. As a result of this initiative, **over 1,000 potential migrants received direct consultations** on registration, job opportunities, and skills required in the local market. Five teachers of Russian language received **professional training on modern methods of teaching Russian** as a foreign language and **over 200 students participated in a two-month migration orientation and Russian language training program**. Moreover, EFCA's partner-organization Multikid created a national database of potential labor migrants. So far, over 500 migrants' profiles has been added. Overall, **the program provided some form of direct support to over 2,800 migrants** while more people benefited from the program's online materials.

More than 5,000 Tajik residents received information on migration issues via advertisements and articles published in local papers. A round table discussion was held in Dushanbe on strengthening cooperation between governmental agencies, NGOs, commercial organizations and the mass media in ensuring effective and safe labor migration to the Russian Federation.

EFCA's **Poverty Reduction Small Grants Project** seeks to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to address poverty among vulnerable groups in Tajikistan's Khatlon oblast and the Districts of Republican Subordination. Although the project is at the early stage of implementation it is nonetheless proving its relevance as more than **40 local NGOs that work with vulnerable groups have expressed their interest in participating in the program**. All of the participants receive on-site consultations, and EFCA will give grants to six NGOs for institutional development.

In pursuit of strengthening the rights of small businesses and micro-entrepreneurs, EFCA has worked to enhance the capacity of lawyers in Dushanbe to defend the rights of businessmen and improve pertinent legislation through the **Small Enterprise Legal Facilitation** program. Over the course of two years, EFCA has developed the Public Advocacy Centre (PAC) in Dushanbe to provide legal consultations to small businesses, conduct strategic litigation on their behalf, build the confidence of the business sector in the legal process and advocate progress changes in the laws governing commercial enterprises. The PAC **provided more than 1,900 free legal consultations to small businesses** educating them on the potential challenges of doing business and ways to cope with them. In addition, over the course of the project, **25 cases were initiated** and so far **six cases have been won**. As a result of EFCA's work, more small businesses bring their cases to court to defend their rights.

Russian Federation—New Eurasia Foundation (FNE)

Russia

It has been **five years since the initiation of the Russian Independent Print Media Program (RIPMP)**, which FNE implements with help from Eurasia-Media and the Association of Independent Regional Publishers (AIRP). These years of intensive work with regional publications helped launch a host of quality independent media outposts in small cities in the Ural Mountains, Siberia, and other parts of Russia. These publications – in small towns like Berdsk, Krasnoturinsk, Kachkanar, and Zhelenogorsk – are admired for their journalism by the network of like-minded small newspapers seeking to improve their coverage and content.

Last year, in addition to numerous helpful trainings, the implementers organized **a wide range of events such as the Third Annual Best Regional Newspaper competition, Local Newspaper at the Center of Events conference in Moscow, the Second Annual Newspaper in Education (NIE) conference in Barnaul, the annual AIRP summit conference in Kaliningrad and the Sixth Annual Best Newspaper Design Conference in Moscow**. These events were attended by hundreds of participants—a fact that demonstrates both the possibility and necessity of such events and projects in the country with strong censorship. Notably, the NIE conference was a success, particularly in its attendance, as school-teachers and students from 8 different regions of Russia took part in the conference, which coincided with the launch of an official NIE Russia web resource. This year also saw the launch of two new RIPMP-supported newspapers in Pervouralsk and Serov. Today, both newspapers, for the first time, provide their respective local readers with quality and independent news.

FNE continues working in the area of migration as it completes the second year of the **Creation of an Effective System to Manage Resettlement of Compatriots to the Krasnoyarsk Kray** program. As part of the program, the foundation engages other NGOs in an effort to create conditions for a comprehensive solution to demographic and migration-related problems in the region. The absence of a mechanism to communicate and coordinate the services that support Russian compatriots from the moment they arrive in Russia until they resettle in a given region complicates the process of re-entry into Russia's workforce. In view of this, FNE focused on developing a regional apparatus to support new arrivals, as well as on replicating the best practices and experiences from other regions. This initiative culminated in the provision of a series of training sessions sponsored by FNE for employees of the participating municipalities. Assisted by the FNE experts and specialists from the Institute of Advanced Research, about 50 training participants discussed the problems affecting progress in this realm. **The outcome was a design of specific mechanisms essential to transforming these problems into practical plans of action.**

Promoting holistic and systematic research and excellence of post secondary education, FNE sponsored an initiative on projections in the development of the tertiary education track. The project was consummated with the publication of a tutorial entitled “Forecasting Development of the Tertiary Education System for 2009-2011 in the Conditions of Education Modernization.” The tutorial serves as a working tool for tertiary education practitioners. **The book was mailed out to all institutions of higher education throughout the Russian Federation**, as well as to regional education administration bodies and Russian research and public libraries.

Last year, FNE's **Homeowners Support** project held its third annual national conference on management of multifamily apartment buildings by homeowners associations, entitled



*Third Annual Conference
“Managing multifamily
apartment buildings”*

“Managing multifamily apartment buildings – the present and the future”. **The event**, which took place in Moscow, between the 23rd and 24th of September, **was attended by a wide variety of local and regional stakeholders, including representatives of regional and municipal homeowners associations, housing construction cooperatives and unions**, as well as housing management companies and government officials from the city and regional levels. Media outlets from 52 organizations covered the event. A particularly noteworthy consensus among conference participants was that the development of an effective means of collaboration among all actors within the housing and utility sector could be viewed as the principal achievement of the **Homeowners Support** project.

EVALUATIONS AND RESULTS

EVALUATION AND RESULTS

Highlights in Evaluating EF Network Programs

In FY09 the EF Network foundations completed sixteen formal evaluations. These evaluations included 8 needs assessments, 2 mid-term process evaluations and 6 impact evaluations. EF spent approximately \$127,000, or 2% of its program spending, on evaluation during the fiscal year. The recommended industry standard is 3-5% of an organization's program budget. Drawing on both their USAID core grants and other contributions, EF's partner foundations spent about \$216,000 on evaluation activities in FY09.

Assessing the Income Generation for Vulnerable Groups Program

In November 2007, EFCA launched the Income Generation for Vulnerable Groups (IGVG) program. Co-funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the project aims to increase the income potential of socially vulnerable groups, including youth, women and people with disabilities. EFCA supported local NGOs to undertake various income generating activities, including beekeeping, sewing, farming, poultry keeping, furniture-making and fertilizer production.

As the IGVG program came to a close, the EFCA contracted an external consultant to conduct a final assessment and recommend adjustments to the program design. The report carefully examined a sample of seven projects, highlighting their impact on the target groups, as well as their challenges, successes and sustainability. By consolidating the project assessments, the evaluator then examined the effectiveness of EFCA's broader strategy and approach. Based on the findings, the evaluator generated a list of specific recommendations for all of the stakeholders involved in the program, including the grant recipients, their beneficiaries and EFCA. The findings and recommendations are the following:

- On the whole, all of the grant projects helped the beneficiaries generate income. The income growth as a result of the grant activities ranged from 70% up to 1,400%. As the grantee organizations proved their efficacy, the evaluator recommended that EFCA help them build their organizational capacity.
- Another sign of the grantees' success is their interest in receiving repayable grants and revolving funds in future. Recognizing their own potential to sustain the projects, both the beneficiaries and the NGOs demonstrated their readiness to replenish the fund resources from revenues that they will generate. EFCA should consider making repayable grants or revolving funds to self-help groups and/or social enterprises.
- The evaluator recommended that EFCA should provide courses in basic entrepreneurial courses, which would help the beneficiaries better market their products.
- EFCA should be more involved in the selection of beneficiaries. The evaluator suggested utilizing a multi-stage selection procedure in order to ensure that the most driven and motivated beneficiaries participate in future phases of the program.

- All grantees should cooperate with the private businesses and vocational schools. The evaluator noted that the grantees that formed partnerships with business enterprises or vocational institutions performed relatively better than the organizations that did not.
- Finally, EFCA should promote cooperation among the grantees, especially those whose activities are related or complement each other. As an example, the evaluator suggests that an NGO facilitating bio-fertilizer production should cooperate with poultry farming projects.

After reviewing the analysis of the IGVG program, EFCA applied a number of the recommendations to the upcoming small business projects within the ongoing labor migration program. The foundation also re-designed the IGVG program to include previous grantees in order to sustain their activities. EFCA also plans to provide a pre-grant seminar series covering 11 topics that would help the grantees improve their income generation projects. Finally, the selected NGOs will be encouraged to work with self-help groups active in their communities.

Evaluation Statistics for FY09

EF and its network partners collect data on a variety of shared indicators for each grant-funded project. The EF Network foundations closed 206 grants in FY09. The data for the shared indicators for these closed grants are the following:

Changes occurred on individual level

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. Number of direct individual beneficiaries | 46,352 |
| 2. Number of trainees | 16,057 |

Changes occurred on organizational level

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1. Number of organizational beneficiaries | 14,335 |
| 2. Number of new partnerships formed by grantees | 611 |
| 3. Resources leveraged (in-kind) from counterparts | \$201,292 |

Changes occurred on societal level

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Media products disseminated | 1,980 |
| 2. Grantee innovations replicated by others | 192 |
| 3. New jobs created | 1,001 |
| 4. New businesses formed | 738 |

CAPACITY MAPPING INITIATIVE

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

To ensure proper development in the early stage of our partner foundations, Eurasia Foundation designed its own capacity mapping tool that measures the growth of an institution by monitoring its progress in six key areas critical to organizational success. They are Board Governance, Fundraising, Program Management, Financial management, Communications and Human Resources. The Foundation employs a diagnostic approach to evaluate the current capacity of a particular foundation in each of these areas to determine a path for growth and to measure achievement along the way.

Since this capacity mapping tool was launched in 2007, the Foundation's Washington staff, in cooperation with colleagues throughout the Network, have conducted an annual review of each partner foundation in the six critical areas. Following each review, a report is produced that includes practical recommendations on what steps the partner foundations should take over the next year to become stronger and more effective organizations. The partner foundations then use these recommendations when preparing their annual institutional development plans.

We have seen impressive changes in the way the foundations function as a direct result of this process. In one partner foundation, for example, management initially drew on its trustees almost exclusively for fundraising help, neglecting some important governance issues and making minimal efforts to get the new board to function as a cohesive governing unit. EF staff pointed out these deficiencies, and now board committees of this foundation convene quarterly conference calls, trustees and management initiate email discussions, and trustees visit projects. As a result, the board is better informed of the foundation's work, exercises its governance responsibilities more effectively, and operates as a more cohesive group than it did in its first months of operation.

In the area of Program Management, all four partner foundations strive to better analyze the results of their programs. With the guidance of EF program staff, most of the foundations now set realistic, verifiable outcome targets that are specific and measurable. The most recent capacity mapping report of one partner foundation noted significant progress in this area, but challenges remain in setting data collection plans to make sure targets are measured and verified. EF staff continues to work with all of our partner foundations on this issue.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A
EXPENDITURE CHART BY COUNTRY
OCTOBER 1, 2008 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2009

USAID Core 3 Analysis of Expenditures

By Country

From October 1, 2008 through September 31, 2009

\$ Spending By Country												Total
Russia	Ukraine	Moldova	Belarus	Uzbekistan	Turkmenistan	Tajikistan	Kazakhstan	Kyrgyzstan	Georgia	Armenia	Azerbaijan	
1,465,826.68	1,906,923.16	169,065.78	1,073,381.64	505,015.29	56.37	138,927.87	324,086.40	398,973.36	1,419,075.84	1,830,241.21	512,920.03	\$ 9,744,493.62

APPENDIX B
OUTCOME STATEMENTS OF GRANTS CLOSED
OCTOBER 1, 2008 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2009

Armenia

Zinvori Mair Republican Committee of Armenia

Y08-0010

\$31,785

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 12/31/2008

To address the issue of labor migrants' poor knowledge of their rights the grantee provided information and legal support to migrants, potential migrants and repatriates, with a special focus on migrants of the age for mandatory military service and their families. According to recent surveys, most Armenian migrants work abroad illegally, and many are subject to abuse, exploitation, and difficulties reintegrating in to their communities when they return. The grantee organized 1 big conference with the participation of military and other government representatives, NGOs and the media, conducted short-term trainings for 300 potential migrants, as well as published 1500 copies of a guidebook entitled 'The Migrant's Compass'. The grantee also operated a free hotline service which received 317 calls during the project period. As part of the project, the grantee advised 450 migrants and family members on legal issues related to migration and mandatory military service. As a result of the project, conscripts and their families are better aware of the risks of migration, as well as the rights and responsibilities of migrants who are of age for conscription.

Youth Academy Non-Governmental Organization

Y08-4001

\$13,865

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 9/12/2008

To promote improved dialogue and cooperation between Armenian and Turkish youth. Working with partners in Turkey, the grantee provided a virtual forum - an Armenian-Turkish Youth Club. Young people have a significant role to play in the process of mitigating historical and political differences between Armenia and Turkey. The project partners established a jointly managed web-site (www.intyouthclub.com) that hosted an on-line forum, featured the latest regional news of common interest, as well as published four issues of a quarterly on-line magazine "Club Zone." The partners also established a bi-lateral team of off-shore software and chip designers. In addition, the partners organized a series of exchange visits to attend youth-related seminars and roundtable discussions in Armenia and Turkey respectively. The number of visitors to the project's web-site reached 6,500 a year after the commencement of the project, a testament to the project's positive contribution to grass-roots efforts to improve dialogue and cooperation between Armenian and Turkish youth.

YEREVAK Non-Governmental Organization

Y08-3011

\$4,746

Noemberian, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 6/30/2008

In order to protect the rights of labor migrants and returned migrants from Tavush region, the grantee conducted a number of activities to raise awareness about the risks of illegal labor migration and help returnees to reintegrate into their communities. Labor migration continues to affect communities throughout Armenia. Low standards of living and high unemployment means seasonal migration becomes the only means for rural Armenians to support their families. During the project, the grantee provided legal consultations to 539 migrants on Armenian and Russian migration legislation, the risks of illegal migration and information on registration procedures; the grantee also consulted more than 312 returned migrants on the basics of entrepreneurship, tax regulations and establishing a business in Armenia. The grantee reached out to potential migrants through a series of public outreach meetings in 15 communities and by publishing 1500 copies of an informational booklet with information on labor registration, contact information for consular services outside Armenia and other valuable information on migration, distributed to potential labor migrants through the resource center and travel agencies, as well as through customs and local government authorities. The grantee also developed a database of human rights violations among labor migrants in Lipetsk, a common destination of migrants from Tavush region, in partnership with the Union of Armenians in Russia. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants from Tavush Region are better aware of the risks of illegal labor migration. Thanks to the project, the grantee also established relationships with civil society organizations in Russia, which will help Armenian migrants work legally and better integrate abroad, and help prevent exploitation and human rights violations of labor migrants.

Unison NGO for Support of People with Special Needs

Y08-1003

\$7,375

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 7/31/2008

Despite efforts by a number of international donor organizations to strengthen Armenia's non-government sector by developing critical capacities of NGOs, little improvement has been recorded in relation to the sustainability of Armenian NGOs. In response to this need, EPF established the Development of Organizational Capacities (DOC) program to develop the capacities of NGOs at the organizational and community levels in order to improve their performance. Unison, an NGO which serves the disabled, was one of the beneficiaries of the DOC program's collaborative assessment and consulting process. The grantee conducted a needs assessment and developed new services (such as computer classes for the blind) based on the emerging needs of its beneficiaries and members. As part of the program, the grantee developed a multi-year strategic plan, recruited new board members, established a new governance structure (a ten-member advisory committee), involved new volunteers, purchased new specialized computer equipment and software for the blind, developed an Armenian-language version of its website, trained its IT specialist on print and web design, and created new communications materials. As a result of DOC consultations, the grantee has significantly improved its service offerings and established a new branch in Meghri (Sunik marz).

Union of Armenian Government Employees Public Organization

Y08-6018

\$18,057

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 10/15/2008

To increase transparency in Armenia's civil service through increased civil society participation in government hiring processes, the grantee worked with a team of four local NGOs to monitor recruitment and attestation at the Civil Service Council and the ministries of Health, Labor and Social Affairs, and Education and Science. Despite government and civil society efforts to fight corruption in Armenia in the past five years, including passing numerous laws, adopting a series of strategies, and signing on to related international conventions, numerous challenges remain. The grantee produced a series of four reports describing their findings during the monitoring process and held a series of workshops with government employees and civil society representatives to discuss the findings and develop an action plan, as well as recommendations for legislative change, for improving transparency. The results of the project were also discussed during two TV debates. As a result of the project, stronger cooperation has been established between the NGO and participating state agencies, and the recruitment and attestation processes at the Civil Service Council and the three participating ministries has improved.

Theatre for Changes Cultural NGO

Y07-0049

\$16,039

Yerevan, Armenia

9/1/2008 - 11/30/2008

To encourage schoolchildren to make positive changes in their lives and communities, the young actors of the Theater for Changes NGO taught children important civic lessons through interactive performance with live music and sound effects, as well as distribution of informational materials and gifts. Children in the rural areas do not have access to information on life skills and other topics stimulating civic activism affecting their everyday lives. Their main source of information is the school program which does not include civic awareness topics. Performances covered themes such as how to protect the environment, care for personal hygiene, stay safe by learning traffic rules, express an opinion, use public utilities effectively, fight for consumer rights and lead healthy lifestyles. As a result of the project, about 2000 schoolchildren in 24 rural communities became more aware of their civic responsibilities. The scripts developed for eight topics were provided to the schools to be used in the future. The project also represented a new and unique youth-to-youth interactive educational opportunity in Armenia: civic education through theatrical performance for schoolchildren and teachers in rural schools.

The A. D. Sakharov Armenian Human Rights Protection Center

Y08-7045

\$4,235

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 5/31/2008

Many community-based organizations (CBOs) in Armenia lack the skills and experience needed to mobilize people and resources to make a significant contribution to the development of their communities. In order to help CBOs solve local problems more effectively in the Shirak region, the

grantee expanded its own capacities, services and staff in order to function as a Community Resource Center in Gyumri. In Shirak region the grantee strengthened the capacities of more than 12 CBOs and NGOs by building linkages and partnerships between international organizations and CBOs through organizing open-door events and trainings for CBO representatives on major program management topics, as well as by providing information support to organizations: disseminating major donor-related or community development information through e-mail lists, calendars of event, bulletin boards, library of technical resources and publications. For local CBOs, the Center provides consultations on labor code, human rights protection, legal advice and other topics. The Resource Center also developed and published two valuable manuals for CBOs: on Strategic Planning and Fundraising. The grantees are among rare organizations in the region that have the expertise and capacity to act as a support center for local organizations, donor organizations, municipalities and citizen groups. In this way, the resource center has become a unique and sustainable mechanism of a multi-functional support for local CBOs, donor organizations and the public.

Syunats Ashkhar LLC

Y08-2008

\$5,858

Kapan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 8/15/2008

Because of poor quality and distribution, circulation of independent regional newspapers in Armenia remains low. As a result, many regional papers struggle financially and Armenians living in outlying regions primarily rely on (state-run) television for news and information. To strengthen its financial viability, Syunyac Yerkir, a biweekly newspaper in the Syuniq region, enlarged and trained its staff; acquired new technical equipment which enabled them to improve design and layout; enhanced partnership with peer media outlets; and attracted new readers by creating a website. As a result of the project, the paper increased its circulation from 1400 to 2300 copies and began printing issues three times per month (versus twice per month at the beginning of the project). The design and content of the newspaper has also improved, and they have created a new website which is updated regularly with news of the region and national news, all of which has contributed to its financial sustainability.

Sisian Development Center Public Organization

Y08-7046

\$6,065

Sisian, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 9/30/2008

Many community-based organizations (CBOs) in Armenia lack the skills and experience needed to mobilize people and resources to make a significant contribution to the development of their communities. In order to help CBOs solve local problems more effectively in the Syunik region, the grantee expanded its own capacities, services and staff in order to function as a Community Resource Center in Sisian. The Center helped more than 20 CBOs to better publicize their activities and organized a number of need-based trainings for young teachers, students and employees of CBOs on computer literacy and program management, more than 7 projects got funded due to RC support to NGOs. Through Shivini newsletter and events such as public discussions, the Center

cooperated with CBOs to improve and make more transparent the flow of information between CBOs, municipalities, the donor community, and the public. As a result of this improved communication, the Sisian Municipality made their annual work plan and budget available for public discussion, with assistance from the Center. The grantee has become a good resource for local businesses as well, consulting them on financial management, tax reporting, business legislation and other issues. The NGO has established 2 private entities in order to generate income to sustain the RC activities. RC continues to provide a number of services to local CBOs and other community groups in the region. As a result of the project, the grantee has become a multi-functional resource center serving surrounding communities and donor organizations, with a wide scope of expertise and clientele.

Sisian Communities Union

Y08-3017

\$4,184

Sisian, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 6/30/2008

The southern Syunik region of Armenia is one of many in the country that is heavily affected by seasonal labor migration. According to recent surveys, most Armenian migrants work abroad illegally, and many are subject to abuse, exploitation, and difficulties reintegrating in their communities when they return. In an effort to minimize illegal labor migration and to protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in the Syunik Region, the grantee established a Migration Resource Center. This center conducted public awareness campaigns for potential labor migrants on the risks of illegal labor migration, provided legal consultations to more than 500 potential labor migrants on migration legislation, and printed and disseminated more than 1000 information leaflets on registration procedures in Armenia and Russia. As a direct result of the grantee's efforts, 200 migrants were employed legally and regularly send home about \$1200 monthly in remittances. More than 250 returnees were also provided with information on local employment opportunities, business development, and entrepreneurship; at least three returned migrants found jobs locally after being referred to vocational training in Yerevan. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants from Syunik are better informed about the risks of illegal labor migration, and returnees more aware of employment opportunities at home.

Sevan Newspaper Chief CJSC

Y08-2003

\$4,247

Sevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 7/31/2008

Because of poor quality and distribution, circulation of independent regional newspapers in Armenia remains low. As a result, many regional papers struggle financially and Armenians living in outlying regions primarily rely on (state-run) television for news and information. To strengthen its financial sustainability, Sevan monthly newspaper conducted a pre- and post-project survey to identify potential advertisers and the needs and interests of its audience, enlarged and trained its staff, acquired new technical equipment which enabled the staff to improve design quality, and established cooperation with other local print media outlets and donor organizations. To improve the quality of reporting and better connect with readers in the region, the paper hired two new experienced

journalists and a distribution agent. As a result of the project, the paper increased its circulation from 500 to 1200 copies and began printing issues twice per month (versus once per month at the beginning of the project). The design and content of the newspaper has also improved, and they have added a new advertisements and announcements section, all of which has had an impact on readership, sales and revenues.

Resource Center of Charentsavan Charitable NGO

Y08-3008

\$4,889

Charentsavan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 7/31/2008

The city of Charentsavan in the Kotayk region of Armenia is one of the many cities in the country that is affected by seasonal labor migration. According to recent surveys, most Armenian migrants work abroad illegally, and many are subject to abuse, exploitation, and difficulties reintegrating in to their communities when they return. To protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in Kotayk Region, the Resource Center of Charentsavan Charitable NGO expanded its capacities to serve as a Migration and Return Resource Center (MRRC). The center published 1700 informational leaflets and held eight community outreach meetings on the risks of illegal labor migration, and offered legal consultations to 271 potential labor migrants and returnees on migration-related legislation, registration procedures in Armenia and Russia, and finding a job or starting a business in Armenia upon return. Resource centers staff members also participated in an EPF/CRRC research initiative on labor migration, conducting about 500 interviews with households in Charentsavan following training on how to conduct an interview and use SPSS for data analysis. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants from the Kotayk region are better aware of the risks of illegal labor migration, their responsibilities should they choose to migrate, and steps they can take to protect themselves. Returned migrants in the region are also better aware of local employment opportunities in Armenia; as part of the project, the grantee placed 6 returned migrants in jobs in Charentsavan.

Nvatshum Youth Non Governmental Organization

Y08-7015

\$2,003

Ijevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 4/30/2008

In order to help CBOs solve local problems more effectively in Tavush region, the grantee, a youth NGO, expanded its own capacities and services in order to function as a Community Resource Center in Ijevan. Many community-based organizations (CBOs) in Armenia lack the skills and experience needed to mobilize people and resources to make a significant contribution to the development of their communities. As part of the project, the Center provided technical and informational support to 15 CBOs and other youth organizations, business and the public. For example, the Center trained 27 young people in developing a resume, how to behave during a job interview, and how to write a cover letter. For local businesses and other organizations, the Center provided consultations on financial management, budgeting, accounting, labor legislation, banking, credit, Internet searching, and other topics. Thanks to support provided by the grantee, at least 25 people found jobs, 12 CBOs developed strategic plans, and five major donor and microfinance organizations disseminated information about their programs to organizations and the public in

Tavush region. The Center also developed new partnerships and shared experience and plans with a regional network of NGOs, as well as a nationwide network of Resource Centers formed as part of EPF's program. The Center continues to provide a number of services to local CBOs and other youth and community groups in the region, including training, consulting and technical assistance as well as access to communication and information resources. In this way, as result of the project the grantee has become a sustainable mechanism of support for local CBOs.

Maternity Center of Armenia Charitable Public Organization

Y08-1001

\$4,707

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 5/31/2008

Despite efforts by a number of international donor organizations to strengthen Armenia's non-government sector by developing critical capacities of NGOs, little improvement has been recorded in relation to the sustainability of Armenian NGOs. According to a World Learning survey and a CIVICUS Armenian Civil Society Sector study, Armenian non-profit organizations usually experience a decline in operational effectiveness as soon as donor support ends. The same groups report that slightly less than one-third of the 4,500 Civil Society organizations registered with Armenia's Ministry of Justice are active at all. In response to this need, as part of EPF's Development of Organizational Capacities (DOC) Program, the Maternity Center of Armenia aimed to improve its organizational performance and service provision. The grantee raised more than \$100,000 by organizing two major charity concerts with famous Armenian singers, launched and continues to publish the first journal in Armenia on maternity issues, and launched new services, such as consultations on prenatal psychology, social patronage, and art therapy to its beneficiaries. As a result of these changes, the NGO has become more sustainable and raised its public profile.

Martuni Women's Community Council Non-Governmental Organization

Y08-3021

\$12,057

Martuni, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 9/30/2008

The Gegharkunik region of Armenia is one of many in the country that is heavily affected by seasonal labor migration. According to recent surveys, most Armenian migrants work abroad illegally, and many are subject to abuse, exploitation, and difficulties reintegrating in to their communities when they return. To protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in the region, the grantee expanded its capacities in order to serve as a Migration and Return Resource Center. The center published informational leaflets and offered one-on-one legal consultations to 2000 potential labor migrants and returnees on migration-related legislation and registration procedures in Armenia and Russia. Resource centers staff members also participated in an EPF/CRRC research initiative on labor migration, conducting about 500 interviews with households in Martuni following training on how to conduct an interview and use SPSS for data analysis. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants from the Gegharkunik Region are better aware of the risks of illegal labor migration, their responsibilities should they choose to migrate, and steps they can take to protect themselves. Returned migrants in the region are also better aware of local employment opportunities in Armenia.

Lori TV LLC

Y08-5002

\$11,309

Vanadzor, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 10/31/2008

Despite government and civil society efforts to fight corruption in Armenia in the past five years, including passing numerous laws, adopting a series of strategies, and signing on to related international conventions, numerous challenges remain. Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index shows the Armenian public believes corruption has actually worsened, not improved, during that time period. To increase public awareness about their rights and responsibilities in the fight against corruption in Lori Region, the grantee produced and aired a series of television programs: fourteen talk-shows with "vox-populi" on the street interviews with citizens from 67 communities on corruption-related topics (e.g. elections, judicial system, education, healthcare, culture, social-related corruption and local government). The TV programs attracted a great deal of attention among the local population, as indicated by the number of calls and feedback received. As result of the project, the public in Lori region has become better informed about corruption-related issues and means available to them for proactively fighting corruption.

Komitas State Quartet NCSO

Y08-4002

\$34,046

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 1/14/2009

Since the beginning of the twentieth century, relations between the Armenian and Turkish people have been burdened by a history of mistrust, hostility, and conflict, culminating in a lack of diplomatic relations and a closed land border between the two countries. With a partner in Turkey, the grantee worked to establish a bridge of tolerance and collaboration between musicians and music fans in the two countries. The grantee and its partners in Turkey arranged for a cycle of exchange concerts by the Komitas State Quartet and Bosphorus Quartet, as well as for an exchange visit and performance by a renowned musician from each country in Turkey and Armenia respectively. The audience of each of the two concerts by the Turkish musicians in Armenia was close to 300, and included artists, musicians, journalists, and representatives of civil society organizations and international agencies. The two concerts by the Armenian musicians in Turkey were visited by 100 and 200 Turkish music-lovers respectively. The concerts received considerable media coverage in both Armenia and Turkey, such as the article "Anatolian music to echo in the Armenian capital" in Hurriyet Daily, or the article "Ministry of Music: Turkish-Armenian exchange promotes goodwill through art" in ArmeniaNow. The project was instrumental in rehabilitating the process of cultural exchange between the two countries that began back in 2002.

Kumayri-Banvor Ltd.

Y08-2009

\$7,658

Gyumri, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 7/18/2008

Because of poor quality and distribution, circulation of independent regional newspapers in Armenia remains low. As a result, many regional papers struggle financially and Armenians living in outlying regions primarily rely on (state-run) television for news and information. To strengthen its financial

viability, Kumayri, a weekly newspaper in Shirak region, enlarged and trained its staff; acquired new technical equipment which enabled them to improve design and layout; and enhanced partnership with peer media outlets and civil society organizations based in Gyumri. The paper conducted ten public hearings in neighboring communities and based on the discussion in those hearings, as well as individual meetings, community visits and other local sources, published fifty one-page two-color news inserts on issues of importance in the region including unemployment, trafficking, consumers' rights, and issues faced by refugees, the disabled, and other vulnerable groups. As a result of the project, the newspaper improved its public image, enlarged the size and geographic reach of its audience by ten new communities and established cooperation with a number of local organizations, all of which has contributed to its financial sustainability.

Kaghni Social Ecological Non Governmental Organization

Y08-7032

\$1,307

Berd, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 3/31/2008

Many community-based organizations (CBOs) in Armenia lack the skills and experience needed to mobilize people and resources to make a significant contribution to the development of their communities. In order to help CBOs solve local problems more effectively in the Berd area of Tavush region, the grantee expanded its own capacities, services and staff in order to function as a Community Resource Center. The grantee cooperated with local and international organizations to conduct a needs assessment of CBOs in the area; organized training for 36 participants from more than 21 CBOs and active community groups on monitoring and community needs assessment, fundraising and proposal writing, solving internal conflicts in communities, and basic computer and internet literacy; provided consulting to at least 12 local businesses; and helped six CBOs develop project proposals and search for funding for community projects. The Center also developed new partnerships and shared experience and plans with a regional network of NGOs, as well as a nationwide network of Resource Centers formed as part of EPF's program. The Center continues to provide a number of services to local CBOs and other community groups in the region including training, consulting and technical assistance, as well as access to communication and information resources. The grantee is the only organization in Berd that has the expertise and capacity to act as a support center for local organizations, donor organizations, municipalities and citizen groups in the region. In this way, the grantee has become a unique and sustainable mechanism of support for local CBOs in the area.

Investigative Journalists Non-Governmental Organization

Y08-5009

\$27,941

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 9/30/2008

Despite government and civil society efforts to fight corruption in Armenia in the past five years, including passing numerous laws, adopting a series of strategies, and signing on to related international conventions, numerous challenges remain. Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index shows the Armenian public believes corruption has actually worsened, not improved, during that time period. To increase the transparency of local governance in Ararat,

Armavir, Kotayk, Tavush and Lori regions, the grantee recruited and trained a group of reporters in those regions, produced a series of TV talk shows and short films to highlight the issue, and conducted meetings and a round table discussion with local residents, civil society organizations and representatives of local government. As part of the project, the grantee published more than 300 articles on various corruption-related issues in these communities on their website, www.hetq.am. The grantee also published 10 inserts in Azg daily, one of Armenia's largest national newspapers, including five featuring material from the targeted regions. As a result of the project, the concept of more transparent local government systems was introduced in the targeted regions.

Information Systems Development and Training Center

Y08-1005

\$5,696

Charentsavan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 10/31/2008

Despite efforts by a number of international donor organizations to strengthen Armenia's non-government sector by developing critical capacities of NGOs, little improvement has been recorded in relation to the sustainability of Armenian NGOs. According to a World Learning survey and a CIVICUS Armenian Civil Society Sector study, Armenian nonprofit organizations usually experience a decline in operational effectiveness as soon as donor support ends. In order to improve its performance at the organizational and community levels, the grantee conducted a needs assessment of its beneficiaries, developed a strategic plan which clarified the roles and responsibilities of NGO staff and management and developed new written policies and procedures for HR and administration. With guidance from EPF, the grantee was also able to improve its financial resource management system and develop its website and a PR strategy for promoting its services. As a result of the project, the grantee made a major change in order to better serve its beneficiaries: the NGO moved its office to Yerevan from Charentsavan in response to demand from members.

Hope and Help NGO

Y08-3013

\$1,935

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 9/30/2008

The Lori region of Armenia is one of many in the country that is heavily affected by seasonal labor migration. According to recent surveys, most Armenian migrants work abroad illegally, and many are subject to abuse, exploitation, and difficulties reintegrating in to their communities when they return. To protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in the Lori Region of Armenia, the grantee established a Migration Resource Center. During the first five months of project implementation, the grantee hired new local staff, who were trained on interview and data collection techniques by EPF/CRRC. The grantee established contacts with local employment centers and other entities to continue cooperation in finding job opportunities for migrants and returnees. The center conducted public awareness campaigns for potential labor migrants on the risks of illegal labor migration, provided legal consultations to potential labor migrants and returnees on migration legislation and registration procedures in Armenia and Russia, and assisted returnees to help them reintegrate into society. Returnees were also provided with information on local employment opportunities, business development, and entrepreneurship, 3 of them found jobs due to the

services of the center. As result of the project, there is a number of specialists aware of migration issues, potential labor migrants from Lori are better informed about the risks of illegal labor migration and returnees are more aware of employment opportunities.

Gorisi Yeritasardakan Miutium Public Organization

Y08-3019

\$8,500

Goris, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 8/31/2008

The city of Goris in the Syunik region of Armenia is one of the many cities in the country that is affected by seasonal labor migration. According to recent surveys, most Armenian migrants work abroad illegally, and many are subject of abuse, exploitation, and difficulties reintegrating in to their communities when they return. To protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in Syunik Region, the Gorisi Yeritasardakan Miutium Public Organization expanded its capacities to serve as a Migration and Return Resource Center (MRRC). The center published 3000 informational leaflets and held 28 community outreach meetings on the risks of illegal labor migration, and offered legal consultations to 1660 potential labor migrants and returnees on migration-related legislation, registration procedures in Armenia and Russia, and finding a job or starting a business in Armenia upon return. Resource centers staff members also participated in an EPF/CRRC research initiative on labor migration, conducting about 500 interviews with households in Goris following training on how to conduct an interview and use SPSS for data analysis. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants from the Syunik region are better aware of the risks of illegal labor migration, their responsibilities should they choose to migrate, and steps they can take to protect themselves. Returned migrants in the region are also better aware of local employment opportunities in Armenia; as part of the project, the grantee placed 24 returned migrants in jobs in Goris and other cities of Syunik region.

Dilnet Service Educational NGO

Y08-1004

\$9,320

Dilijan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 8/31/2008

Despite efforts by a number of international donor organizations to strengthen Armenia's non-government sector by developing critical capacities of NGOs, little improvement has been recorded in relation to the sustainability of Armenian NGOs. According to a World Learning survey and a CIVICUS Armenian Civil Society Sector study, Armenian non-profit organizations usually experience a decline in operational effectiveness as soon as donor support ends. In response to this need, Eurasia Partnership Foundation established a program to develop the capacities of NGOs at the organizational level in order to improve their performance. As part of that program, "Dilnet Service" NGO involved and trained new volunteers and staff members, developed an organizational strategy, developed its website and created new services, including trainings on accounting and website development for businesses, based on the emerging needs of its beneficiaries. As a result, the grantee has separated the NGO from its associated profit-making enterprise and set new performance goals for the separate entities, expanded its services and engaged new members in the governing bodies of the organization.

Development Centre of Armavir Social-Economic NGO

Y08-3009

\$5,372

Armavir, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 5/15/2008

According to a 2006 OSCE survey, more than 17,000 Armenians (as many as 14% of men and 3% of women in the labor force) are labor migrants annually. Many of these migrants work abroad illegally, and are subject to abuse, exploitation, and difficulties reintegrating into their communities when they return. To protect the rights of labor migrants and returnees in the Armavir Region of Armenia, the grantee expanded its capacities in order to serve as a Migration and Return Resource Center. The center published informational leaflets and held community outreach meetings on the risks of illegal labor migration, and offered one-on-one legal consultations to 120 potential labor migrants and returnees on migration-related legislation and registration procedures in Armenia and Russia. The grantee provided about forty returnees with information on employment opportunities in the Armavir Region; as a result, 10 found jobs locally. In addition, the center trained 21 returned migrants in business development, and linked them with local businesses to learn about their experiences in entrepreneurship, enabling two trainees to open their own businesses. As a result of the project, potential labor migrants from the Armavir Region are better aware of the risks of illegal labor migration, their responsibilities should they choose to migrate, and steps they can take to protect themselves. Returned migrants in the region are also better aware of local employment opportunities in Armenia.

Civil Initiatives Center Vahagni XXI Non- Governmental Organization

Y08-7031

\$1,555

Alaverdi, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 3/31/2008

Many community-based organizations (CBOs) in Armenia lack the skills and experience needed to mobilize people and resources to make a significant contribution to the development of their communities. In order to help CBOs solve local problems more effectively in the Lori region, the grantee expanded its own capacities, services and staff in order to function as a Community Resource Center in Alaverdi. The Center helped local CBOs to better publicize their activities and organized a number of need-based trainings for young teachers, students and employees of CBOs on computer literacy and program management. Through a newsletter and events such as public discussions, the Center cooperated with CBOs to improve and make more transparent the flow of information between CBOs, municipalities, the donor community, and the public. As a result of this improved communication, the Alaverdi Municipality made their annual work plan and budget available for public discussion, with assistance from the Center. The grantee has become a good resource for local businesses as well, consulting them on financial management, tax reporting, business legislation and other issues. The Center continues to provide a number of services to local CBOs and other community groups in the region. As a result of the project, the grantee has become a multi-functional resource center serving surrounding communities, with a wide scope of expertise and clientele.

Association for Education and Research Millenium

Y08-6013

\$18,124

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 12/24/2009

Despite government and civil society efforts to fight corruption in Armenia in the past five years, including the passage of numerous laws, a series of strategies, and signing onto related international conventions, numerous challenges remain. Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index shows the Armenian public believes corruption has actually worsened, not improved, during that time period. To increase the transparency of local governance in Gegharkunik and Syunik regions, the grantee created working groups in ten communities of the targeted regions which included local government staff members and local NGO representatives, and trained them on preventing, diagnosing and fighting corruption in local government. Based on the model of La Paz, Bolivia and materials created by the World Bank there, the grantee also developed and published a methodological manual for other local government offices about combating corruption, which was disseminated to wider range of local government offices and municipalities. As a result of the project, best practices of transparent local government systems were introduced in the targeted communities and local anticorruption strategies were developed and adopted by Avaganis (Community Councils) in nine communities.

ASPAREZ Journalists' Club NGO

Y08-5008

\$9,169

Gyumri, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 7/31/2008

Despite government and civil society efforts to fight corruption in Armenia in the past five years, including adopting a series of laws and strategies and signing on to related international conventions, numerous challenges remain. Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index shows the Armenian public believes corruption has actually worsened, not improved, during that time period. Armenia adopted a Law on Freedom of Information (FOI) on April 23, 2003. Implementing the law, however, has posed significant challenges: State agencies, not understanding their legal obligations, refuse to provide information; and many journalists do not understand how to exercise their right to obtain information. To address this issue and reduce corruption risks in three northern regions of Armenia (Shirak, Lori and Tavush) the grantee conducted series of seminar-workshops on the use of the Freedom of Information Law (FOI Law) as a tool against corruption among a large number of participants including practicing and student journalists, officials managing information of public interest, civil society representatives, lawyers and politicians. Issues related to FOI Law and corruption risks in the regions were discussed on TV debates and broadcast by ten regional TV companies in the targeted northern cities of the Republic. Additionally, round table discussions were held in Gyumri, Vanadzor and Ijevan bringing together stakeholders and officials. Major achievements and final results of the project were highlighted through the final Conference conducted in Gyumri which has also developed final recommendations for the project. As a result of the project, public awareness about the existing tools against corruption and on the implementation of the FOI Law increased the targeted regions.

Armenian Young Women's Association

Y08-0014

\$11,544

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 7/31/2008

In the Vayots Dzor region of Armenia, high rates of unemployment among youth, few opportunities for cultural and leisure activities, and limited access to formal and informal education result in little civic and economic participation among young people. To address this issue, the grantee established a youth center in Vayots Dzor which worked to promote youth activism in the region through conducting ToT trainings on leadership/management and fundraising; youth entrepreneurship; computer proficiency and election procedures for local youth. The grantee also trained the local partner NGO to build its capacity to advise young people on topics ranging from opening new businesses to the importance of participation in elections and other aspects of civic and political life. As a result of the project, at least 225 young people in Vayots Dzor gained skills they need to participate in the civic and economic development of their communities. The established Center actively operates in the Vayots Dzpr region providing necessary services and assistance to the local youth.

Armenian International Policy Research Group

Y08-0004

\$16,186

Yerevan, Armenia

4/3/2008 - 11/30/2008

Despite the declared readiness of the government to launch the second generation reforms and to sustain the economic growth in the country, there is still little progress in consolidating the economic research capacity and to establish a civic forum over the issue. In order to inform policymakers, researchers and the business community on the key economic and social issues facing Armenia, the grantee hosted its annual Conference at World Bank headquarters in Washington, DC on May 17-18, 2008. The two-day event, entitled "Looking Forward: Global Competitiveness of the Armenian Economy and the Need for Second Generation Reforms," was co-sponsored by Eurasia Partnership Foundation, the World Bank and UNDP and addressed issues related to Armenia's global competitiveness - how second-generation reforms can foster further economic growth in the country. Participants included representatives from academia, policymakers, Armenian government officials, NGOs, donor organizations, media outlets, and graduate students. Approximately 100 people were in attendance at in Washington and 50 people participated via videoconference from the World Bank office in Yerevan. Seventeen papers were presented at the event which addressed the conditions or reforms needed to sustain rapid growth, including maintaining external competitiveness of the Armenian economy. The Proceedings were also published in the grantee's policy research journal and on the organization's web-site www.aiprg.net. As a result of the project, policy recommendations have been developed and communicated to decision-makers.

Armenian Center for Political and International Studies NGO

Y08-0042

\$8,482

Yerevan, Armenia

9/22/2008 - 11/30/2008

In light of recent regional and geo-political developments, especially the August 2008 armed conflict between Russia and Georgia, Armenia's existing approach toward the principles of territorial integrity and national self-determination will likely change. The grantee, Armenian Center for Political and International Studies NGO, sought to contribute to stakeholder understanding of recent geo-political transformations in the South Caucasus and their anticipated impact on Armenia. This was done by encouraging reflective expert consultation and discussion (based on the Creative Games methodology) and developing a set of strategic recommendations on Armenia's internal and external policies in this troubled regional context. The main activity of the project was a three-day workshop outside of Yerevan for a group of 30 Armenian experts and international stakeholders, who discussed regional and global developments in terms of their influence on Armenia's short- and mid-term security. The project resulted in a paper, published in Armenian, Russian, and English, which was comprised of a set of anticipated scenarios, and related challenges that might face Armenia in the near future, and recommendations to the Government of Armenia and other stakeholders on effective ways of addressing each of those challenges. The paper was widely disseminated electronically via mailing lists, and 120 copies on CD were distributed to the civil society community, international organizations, and relevant government agencies in Armenia.

Analytical Center in Globalization and Regional Cooperation Non-Governmental Organization

Y08-0026

\$23,565

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 9/10/2008

Ongoing EU accession talks with Turkey, as well as the inclusion of Armenia in the European Neighborhood Policy, have put additional pressure on the two countries to resolve their differences and improve relations with one another. The Analytical Center in Globalization and Regional Cooperation sought to promote dialogue between the analytical communities of the two countries on issues of mutual concern including European integration. Overall, the project examined the validity of the assumption that at some point the European aspirations of Turkey and Armenia, as well as the global/regional challenges and threats facing these two countries will diminish the historical and political differences between the two nations. In particular, the grantee and its partners in Turkey arranged for a survey of 50 representatives of political and civil society elites in each country on these issues. The results of the survey were discussed at the two consecutive international conferences in Yerevan. A series of articles in the Armenian newspaper "Aravot", two issues of the Turkish Policy Quarterly, and 500 copies each of two brochures in Armenian and English increased public and stakeholder awareness on the research findings and the two conferences. In addition, the project received substantial media coverage in both Armenia and Turkey including news agencies ArmInfo, Noyan-Tapan, and Radio Free Europe. This further amplified interest among the expert communities in Armenia and Turkey towards the issues under discussion.

ACHILLES Society for Defence of Drivers Rights

Y08-6012

\$22,620

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 8/15/2008

Despite government and civil society efforts to fight corruption in Armenia in the past five years, including adopting a series of laws and strategies and signing on to related international conventions, numerous challenges remain. Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index shows the Armenian public believes corruption has actually worsened, not improved, during that time period. Traffic inspection has been one of the most corrupt state practices in Armenia. To increase drivers' awareness of their rights and responsibilities, the grantee provided free consultations and legal support to about 300 people in person and through a hotline, brought 10 lawsuits to the administrative court on behalf of drivers (6 of them successful), published a book "Typical examination questions for obtaining a driving license," and set up 14 information stands in Yerevan, Gyumri, Vanadzor, Armavir and Abovyan. The grantee cooperated with the police to analyze public feedback (including data gathered through the hotline) to identify areas where further reform is needed; cooperation between the NGO and the traffic police will continue in future. The grantee also submitted a package of amendments and recommendations to the Law on Road Traffic Security (adopted in 2007) and the "Administrative offences" Code, which has not been updated since 1985. As a result of the project, the process of obtaining a driver's license is more transparent, and the first steps have been taken toward reducing corruption in traffic inspection.

"Armauthor" Author Rights Defence Non-Governmental Organization

Y08-0028

\$20,725

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 12/5/2008

Despite the fact that Armenia recently signed on to international conventions supporting copyright protection, the country still faces numerous problems related to intellectual property rights. To help intellectual property holders, law enforcement, and lawyers understand intellectual property and copyright protection issues, the grantee published a textbook on Intellectual Property Rights for use in universities and led 32 law students and instructors through a nine-month training program on intellectual property rights. The grantee also produced and broadcast an educational PSA on piracy and a series of TV programs on copyright, intellectual property rights and violations with the participation of lawyers, writers, composers, scientists, and representatives of the tax authorities and Ministry of Internal Affairs. Finally, the grantee conducted three round table discussions in Yerevan on technology and copyright issues with the support of Microsoft Armenia and seven seminars outside the capital city for authors and artists on protecting their intellectual property rights. As a result of the project, awareness about intellectual property rights, copyrights and related rights has increased among those who hold and enforce those rights, which in turn will promote the development of business, science, literature and the arts in Armenia.

Armenian Centre of Ethnological Studies HAZARASHEN

C07-7009

\$950

Yerevan, Armenia

5/1/2008 - 5/31/2008

Sustainable rural development largely depends on the availability of adequate energy. Limited supply of and/or rising prices for natural gas and electricity has increased demand for firewood that has consequently led to deforestation and destruction of wind shields around populated areas in the South Caucasus. Both the rural population and the environment would benefit from more farmers utilizing indigenous sustainable energy systems. The three-country partnership consortium utilized the contact (seed) project to develop a full linkage proposal that would address the issue of promoting anaerobic digestion technology as an alternative solution to livestock waste management and a substitute for using firewood for energy among rural communities throughout the South Caucasus. The contact project also aimed to develop cross-border cooperation between energy experts, construction professionals, and rural communities. Implementation of the contact project resulted in the development of a linkage proposal; however the latter was not competitive and EPF chose not to support the initiative further.

Armenian Marketing Association Non-Governmental Organization

C08-7001

\$5,781

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 9/5/2008

To build the capacity of local businesses in the South Caucasus to export goods and services. Export growth from the South Caucasus has lagged despite government efforts to liberalize customs and tax regulations as well as to promote international quality standards for locally produced goods and services. A major constraint on most businesses in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia has been the lack of sufficient resources and capacity to search for and establish partnerships with partners abroad. Likewise, foreign businesses lack a comprehensive and reliable data source that would facilitate their search for potential partners in the South Caucasus. The Armenian Marketing Association NGO, along with partners in Azerbaijan and Georgia, sought to contribute to the economic development of the countries of the South Caucasus by developing the capacity of local businesses to export goods and services. The partners promoted locally-produced goods and services through high-quality, print and web-based English-language versions of three national export catalogs. The catalogs, which feature comprehensive information on producers and service providers located in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia, were distributed through embassies, consulates, and large import-export organizations in foreign countries. The production of the catalogs (2,000 copies each in Armenia and Azerbaijan, and 6,000 copies in Georgia) enabled an exchange of best practices in export promotion among the project partners and gave the Armenian partner a chance to share its extensive experience accumulated by producing a series of Armenia Export Catalogs. It also helped the subscribing producers and service providers from the South Caucasus achieve greater access to markets outside the region and increased awareness of the region's economic potential among global suppliers and investors.

Caucasian Center of Peacemaking Enterprise NGO

C08-7007

\$27,030

Yerevan, Armenia

8/6/2008 – 2/6/2009

To improve peacemaking efforts in the South Caucasus. More active and sustained involvement of people in the South Caucasus who are immediately affected by conflict - such as refugees, inhabitants of border regions and youth - is needed to make peace-building and conflict resolution initiatives more effective. The grantee, along with partners in Azerbaijan and Georgia, sought to broaden the debate on human rights and the peaceful settlement to include these typically excluded groups through a film festival. The grantee arranged for and managed five regional documentary film festivals in Armenia for the public in Gyumri, Noyemberyan, Vanadzor, Yerevan, and Yeghegnadzor. Ten films about conflict, human rights and tolerance were shown during each festival and each screening was followed by public discussions as well as cultural and social events facilitated by invited experts from Armenia and other countries of the South Caucasus. About 600 people attended the festival in the five Armenian cities. The festival was widely covered by local and national electronic and print media, with more than 15 TV reports and 30 articles dedicated to the events. In addition to this, a Georgian journalist, Irakli Chikhladze, produced five articles and five interviews with civil society leaders in Armenia, and the grantee widely disseminated them. This project established a new method of building bridges and raising awareness of human rights among people who are normally excluded from the discourse on these topics - through screening feature films and documentaries focusing on ideals of common humanity and tolerance.

International Center for Human Development (ICHD) NGO

C08-7003

\$32,159

Yerevan, Armenia

2/1/2008 - 9/29/2008

Inclusive and transparent decision-making on public policy issues in the South Caucasus is a rarity. Ordinary citizens are alienated from decision-making processes by the governing elites and powerful business interest groups in all three countries to varying degrees. This lack of inclusion alienates citizens from political processes and weakens democratic development. The International Center for Human Development in Armenia, together with its partners in Azerbaijan and Georgia, sought to contribute to improved public policy making in the South Caucasus through the Town Hall Meeting (THM) system. The system had already been tested and implemented in Armenia; under the guidance of the grantee the partners developed multi-language support for the computer-based elements of the system, and the grantee trained their Azerbaijani and Georgian counterparts on related facilitation and system implementation skills. Upon completion of the skills and systems transfer, the partners implemented a pilot demonstration of the THM system in Georgia on the issue of high school violence. The resulting analytical paper featured alternative policy recommendations that were highly praised by relevant members of the Georgian government, particularly by the Ministry of Education and Science. To build on the achievements of the project, the partners developed a trilateral concept paper to address environmental issues in the Kura-Araks river basin through regional THMs. As a direct result of the knowledge transfer facilitated by this project, the Armenian and Azerbaijani partners won GBP 200,000 in funding from the UK's Global

Conflict Prevention Pool to conduct a series of Town Hall Meetings in Armenia and Azerbaijan about the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Azerbaijan

Ganja Agribusiness Association

C07-0009

\$1,000

Ganja, Azerbaijan

5/1/2008 - 5/31/2008

Sustainable rural development largely depends on the availability of the adequate amount of energy carriers. Limited and insufficient supply of and/or rising prices for the natural gas and electricity has increased demand on firewood that has consequently led to destruction of wind shields and deforestation around populated areas in the South Caucasus. Both the rural population and rural environment and ecology would benefit as more farmers shift to utilizing indigenous sustainable energy systems throughout the South Caucasus. The three-country partnership consortium utilized the contact (seed) project to develop a (full) linkage proposal that would address the issue of promoting the anaerobic digestion (AD) technology as an alternative solution to livestock waste management and a substitute for using firewood as an energy carrier among rural communities throughout the South Caucasus. The contact project was aimed at the development of cross-border cooperation between involved experts, construction, and rural communities. Implementation of the contact project resulted in the development of a linkage proposal; however, the latter was not competitive enough for EPF to further support the initiative.

Marketing Specialists of Azerbaijan

C08-0001

\$4,105

Baku, Azerbaijan

2/1/2008 - 9/11/2008

Export growth from the South Caucasus has lagged despite government efforts to liberalize customs and tax regulations as well as to promote international quality standards for locally produced goods and services. A major constraint on most businesses in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia has been the lack of sufficient resources and capacity to search for and establish partnerships with partners abroad. Likewise, foreign businesses lack a comprehensive and reliable data source that would facilitate their search for potential partners in the South Caucasus. The Marketing Specialists of Azerbaijan NGO along with its partners in Armenia and Georgia sought to contribute to the economic development of the countries of the South Caucasus by developing the capacity of local businesses to export goods and services. The partners focused on promoting locally produced goods and services through the development of quality print, electronic, and web-based English-language versions of a South Caucasus Export Catalog. The catalog features comprehensive information on producers and service providers located in Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia and was distributed through embassies, consulates, and large importing-exporting organizations in foreign countries. The production of the three national chapters of the export catalog featuring information on local producers and service providers from Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia enabled an exchange of best practices in export promotion among project partners. Through the extensive experience gained by the Azerbaijani partner in producing a series of Azerbaijan Export Catalogs, subscribing producers and service providers from the South Caucasus were able to achieve greater access to

markets outside the region and increase awareness of the region's economic potential by global suppliers and investors.

“Alatoran” Literary and Cultural Magazine

B08-0055

\$6,491

Baku, Azerbaijan

8/22/2008 – 12/15/2008

To provide an Azeri-language alternative to the History of Philosophy printed only in Russian. The History of Philosophy, written by the Norwegian philosophers Gunnar Skirbekk and Nils Gilye, is a good tool for Azerbaijani-language readers to get an unbiased view of the different models of democracy. The grantee-the Alatoran Literary and Cultural Magazine, translated the book into Azerbaijani, published 500 copies and distributed it among educational institutions, libraries and scientific centers.

“Bridge to the Future” Youth Union NSGP

B08-0019

\$12,888

Ganja, Azerbaijan

04/10/08-12/06/08

To expand participation of young people in Azeri political culture. To address this challenge, increase civic activism, and combat voter apathy among young people in 5 rural regions of Azerbaijan, the implementing organization coordinated a high-profile "bike action." Using the 2008 Presidential Elections as a catalyst, "bike action" sought to deliver day-training sessions about principles of the democratic elections and voters' rights – by bicycle. After a training of trainers, 10 trained and motivated young participants of "bike action" rode through the streets of Gazakh, Agstafa, Tovuz, Shemkir and Ganja regions conducting trainings and press conferences drawing attention to their cause.

Dovlet Mammadov

B08-0056

\$5,613

Baku, Azerbaijan

8/22/2008 - 12/25/2008

To address the limited amount of folk literature from other cultures in Azerbaijan. The goal of the project was to introduce Norwegian literature to Azerbaijani readers and develop cultural cooperation between two countries. Through this project, the grantee - Mr. Dovlat Mammadov-translated and published Norwegian Stories, a collection of Norwegian tales. The book was distributed among educational institutions, libraries and boarding schools, allowing Azerbaijani-language readers to learn about Norwegian folklore. This was project funded by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Azerbaijan.

Evangelic Lutheran Community of Survivor NSGP

B08-0037

\$4,000

Baku, Azerbaijan

6/24/2008 - 9/2/2008

To organize a summer camp to promote a healthy physical and spiritual lifestyle among disadvantaged youth and seniors. As in previous years, the Savoir Evangelic Lutheran Church in

Baku organized a summer camp at its summer property on the Abs Heron Peninsula. Traditionally, these underprivileged communities lack the resources to participate in such programs in Azerbaijan which benefit both mental and physical wellbeing. The aim of the camp was to promote a healthy physical and spiritual lifestyle among practitioners in a non-threatening rural environment. Participants took part in leisure activities including swimming, athletics, cinema, games and choir while receiving specific instruction in religious studies, good nutrition, and self-reflection. As a result of the camp, 20 underprivileged children and seniors gained valuable lifestyle skills while concurrently experiencing a relaxing summer holiday in a social setting.

Independent Legal Center NSGP

B08-0029

\$8,998

Baku, Azerbaijan

6/24/2008 - 1/31/2009

To address human trafficking in Azerbaijan. Despite on-going publication of educational information in the mass media, people (especially potential victims like women and children) still lack a comprehensive understanding of the threat. In order to address this, the grantee - Independent Legal Center - implemented a project to educate and provide technical support to potential victims of human trafficking in Baku and seven regions of Azerbaijan. In partnership with the Ministry of Internal Affairs Department on Combating Human Trafficking, they conducted half-day trainings for 20 people from each of the eight targeted areas. Subsequently, selected project participants attended a comprehensive training of trainers (TOT) course aimed at providing additional knowledge and tools to further disseminate information on human trafficking issues in rural communities.

Journalists in Extreme Conditions PU and Shriven Resource Center on Human Rights and NGO

B08-0033

\$12,976

Lochay, Azerbaijan

6/24/2008 - 12/23/2008

To educate young women on their rights in unions and marriages. The vast majority of Azerbaijan's rural population has reverted to "religious" marriages, in some cases making only oral agreements between the families of the bride and groom. Such arrangements have no legal basis and, if dissolved, there are no legal tools for women to protect themselves or their children. In regions with strong religious values and strict customs this can have a serious negative impact on the life of a woman and her family. Even in officially married couples, women are often unaware of their rights, which again can lead to serious problems in case of divorce and even in the process of cohabitation. To address this problem, the grantee - Teyyub Mirgasimov - introduced the regulations of the Azerbaijani Family Code to young women in four targeted regions of Azerbaijan. Four educational seminars and corresponding talk shows were arranged in Khachmaz, Mingechevir, Zagatala and Lenkoran.

POTENTIAL - Union of Sumgait Specialists NSGP

B08-0020

\$11,000

Sumgait, Azerbaijan

4/10/2008 - 10/11/2008

To increase voter participation among women in presidential elections held on 15 October 2008 in Azerbaijan, the implementing organization conducted a voter education campaign targeting women - herein housewives and those with disabilities - in Sumgait. According to reports, previous municipal, parliamentary, and presidential elections demonstrated a pervasive under-representation of one of the most important segments of the eligible electorate - women. With the assistance of several municipal block committees and the Sumgait branch of the Society of Disabled Women, the implementing organization arranged training sessions for Sumgait-area NGOs engaged in women's issues. These trainings helped them develop local capacity to encourage active female participation in the elections, publish educational booklets, and provide free legal advice on elections related issues. As a result of the project, women in Sumgait were provided greater assistance and information enabling their participation in the national elections.

Scandinavian Studies Center, AUL NSGP

B08-0036

\$6,300

Baku, Azerbaijan

6/24/2008 - 3/31/2009

To provide detailed information regarding the history of the Kingdom of Norway to students of the Scandinavian Studies Program at the Azerbaijan University of Foreign Languages, the grantee - The Scandinavian Studies Center of the Azerbaijan - translated The History of Norway from the Ice Age until Today by Oivind Stenersen and Ivar Libak from Norwegian into the Azeri language and printed 100 copies for use in academic instruction. Until now, there had been no source of information about Norwegian history in the Azeri language.

"Center for Economic Researches" Public Union

B08-0003

\$1,857

Baku, Azerbaijan

2/1/2008 - 2/19/2008

To address the issue of accuracy in inflation indices. The grantee - Center of Economic Research - developed alternative methods of calculating core inflation rates in Azerbaijan. Within project scope, the grantee analyzed official and alternative inflation rate methodologies currently employed in Azerbaijan, developing and transitioning countries, and the nations of the former Soviet Union. The grantee then selected the relevant indices to assess the specific dynamics of the conditions in Azerbaijan with an emphasis on those illuminating potential influences of monetary policy. The grantee presented its findings publicly as an alternative to the official inflation rate.

Association of Young Azerbaijani friends of Europe NSGP

B08-0035

\$9,000

Baku, Azerbaijan

6/24/2008 - 10/23/2008

To promote gender equality and human rights among IDP children by involving European youth in long-term volunteer activities in Azerbaijan. The grantee hosted two volunteers from France and

Finland to implement different projects, mainly in IDP communities. While working with IDP children settled in Baku, the volunteers were able to identify specific problems, such as gender inequality. In some cases, girls did not want to sit by boys in the class and some families did not allow their daughters to go to school. Another problem identified was the use of inappropriate educational methodology in some schools that IDP children attend, missing opportunities to engage them in extracurricular activities and acquire a sense of volunteerism. The project addressed these problems through different interactive courses, games, and competitions.

AURUM LLC

B08-0004

\$10,841

Ganja, Azerbaijan

2/1/2008 - 7/27/2008

To promote an innovative approach to desktop publishing services in the Ganja region for youth, leading to higher employment indicators. The grantee established a studio and organized courses on web design and desktop publishing for 24 young people. At the completion of the training, young people supported a professional team as interns in the grantee's studio. To introduce high-quality practices in the area of web design, the grantee invited its Italian partner in IT services, the Phoenix Firm, to deliver a special web design and desktop publishing seminar for course beneficiaries. Through the project, 17 of 24 youth received certification in said area of expertise, nine of whom found jobs in the field. Ultimately, the project participants created more than 15 web pages on different topics.

Azerbaijan National Committee of Helsinki Citizens' Assembly Ganja branch NSGP

B08-0021

\$14,995

Ganja, Azerbaijan

4/10/2008 - 10/11/2008

To address the issue of access to accurate and relevant information and an accurate reflection of the public preference in political contests. In light of the country's national elections in 2008, the grantee conducted a series of educational seminars for internally displaced persons (IDPs) from occupied Kalbacar settled in Ganja. Topics included voting rights, procedures, registration, and appeals. As a result of the project, 136 people in the targeted community increased their knowledge of electoral procedures and were better prepared to participate in the presidential elections. The project was funded by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Azerbaijan.

Buta Children Humanitarian Foundation

B08-0006

\$31,460

Baku, Azerbaijan

3/18/2008 - 11/17/2008

To address the problem of an excessively centralized financial management of public schools. The grantee organized a series of roundtable discussions with representatives and parents from the 14 pilot schools in Ali-Bayramli region and conducted trainings and seminars for representatives of school administrations and councils. In order to raise public awareness on the issue of transparency of school budgets and citizen involvement in budgetary formation, an e-bulletin for education news was launched, in which Ministry of Education participated, and was regularly distributed to around

3,000 subscribers. The grantee, together with EPF's experts, developed a policy paper with recommendations for schools and the ministries of finance and education applying the new funding mechanism. The policy paper was submitted to the Ministry of Education in December 2008 and was well received not only by the Ministry, but also by the World Bank and a number of independent educational experts in Azerbaijan.

CCC Azerbaijan LTD-NSGP

B08-0034

\$8,966

Ganja, Azerbaijan

6/24/2008 - 2/15/2009

To solve the problem in providing an outside perspective of the current events and direction of the country, the grantee - CCC Azerbaijan Ltd - created www.azerdigest.com, a web page that provides up-to-date news about Azerbaijan translated from different foreign resources. The site provided an internet-based audience with political, economic and cultural news about Azerbaijan from the perspective of well-known international mass media located outside of the territory of Azerbaijan.

Charitable Society "Uluchay"

B08-0005

\$12,580

Sheki, Azerbaijan

2/1/2008 - 8/27/2008

To address high unemployment levels, government structures and many non-governmental organizations have been focused on developing youth entrepreneurship in Azerbaijan. The project is aimed at supporting integrated approaches to developing entrepreneurial skills and practical business experience among young people. The grantee – Uluchay - organized twelve trainings for young people between the ages of 18-30 in Sheki and then connected them with experts on entrepreneurship, who provided consultations on starting businesses. A business plan competition was held among the training participants and three proposals were awarded by the grantee organization. With these grants, nine youths established three new businesses, creating a more vibrant entrepreneurial environment for young people in Sheki and a potential model of youth entrepreneurship for other communities in Azerbaijan.

Dovlet Mammadov

B08-0056

\$5,613

Baku, Azerbaijan

8/22/2008 - 12/25/2008

There is a limited amount of folk literature from other cultures in Azerbaijan. The goal of the project was to introduce Norwegian literature to Azerbaijani readers and develop cultural cooperation between two countries. Through this project, the grantee - Mr. Dovlat Mammadov - translated and published Norwegian Stories, a collection of Norwegian tales. The book was distributed among educational institutions, libraries and boarding schools, allowing Azerbaijani-language readers to learn about Norwegian folklore.

"Kameliya" LLC Quba region

B07-0039

\$10,788

Guba, Azerbaijan

5/4/2007 - 1/25/2008

To further entrench parental inclusion in the educational reform process in Azerbaijan and create mechanisms to supplement state provided resources, aimed at promoting parent-sponsored school-based commercial activities to raise extra-budgetary funds. The grantee conducted a series of financial management and budgetary training sessions with emphasis on transparency for parent committees and administrators in two schools in the Guba Region. In partnership with implementing organization, parent committees then piloted fee-based sewing classes in four schools. Funds collected from the initial courses were reinvested into the school's budget with oversight from the parent committee. Furthermore, students accessed affordable vocational training in clothing production and repair.

Azerbaijan Youth Euro-Atlantic Organization NSGP

B07-0062

\$15,300

Baku, Azerbaijan

7/2/2007 - 2/1/2008

To infuse youth participation in civil society and democratic institutions. To alleviate these conditions and encourage engagement by rural youth, the grantee provided opportunities for selected regional participants to learn about Euro-Atlantic values of democracy, rule of law, freedom, civil society and the importance of youth participation. This was accomplished through a series of trainings and seminars conducted in Baku and the regions of Azerbaijan. As a result of the project, over one-hundred rural youth expanded their knowledge of principles of the democratic development of Azerbaijan.

Ganja Regional Organization of "Knowledge" Society

B06-0118

\$28,289

Ganja, Azerbaijan

9/28/2006 - 1/27/2008

To address this deficit of parental involvement in support of school administration. The grantee organized and trained democratically elected Parent Committees and School Councils in schools #28 and #29 in Ganja. Through seminars and round-table discussions, the grantee taught these councils, school administrators and community members proper assessment and prioritization of school needs, budget design and school resource management. A "Parent Fund" - a mini endowment where interest from deposits supports capital improvements - was also successfully piloted in these schools. This project has led to parents collecting and depositing nearly US\$3,500 in each school's "Parent Fund", creating a transparent mechanism for administrative and financial oversight in their secondary schools.

The Organization of Specialists Educated Abroad Azerbaijan

B07-0037

\$14,483

Baku, Azerbaijan

8/1/2007 - 3/31/2008

To promote the legislative establishment of a national system of subsidized education loans. The grantee organized a series of 12 regional roundtable discussions among representatives of the education, banking and government sectors. Detailed information regarding the legislation was provided and publically disseminated - effectively increasing awareness of the proposal and encouraging support. The grantee also initiated a national petition drive to illustrate to Parliament a significant grassroots support for the proposed initiative.

Georgia

Akhaltsikhe Youth Bank

G08-7001

\$1,919

Akhaltsikhe, Georgia

12/1/2008 - 4/6/2009

The project contributed to accomplishment of the main goal of the Youth Bank project to increase capacity and give opportunity to local youth engage as active citizens in development of their communities. Youth Bank members were able to take responsibility for making decisions about grants and be accountable to EPF about how money was spent by their grantees. Five youth-led initiative groups of Marneuli district were given an opportunity to participate in society as active citizens by considering ways to tackle social problem. Marneuli Youth Bank members built effective youth adult partnership by taking initiative to reach out to outside resources and sources of support. In particular they attracted local municipality and two local Parliament members to make in-kind contribution to the two micro projects. Marneuli Youth Bank has also demonstrated increased volunteerism and civic activism among young people by launching a donation drive at five schools of Marneuli to gather school supplies, clothes and hygiene supplies helping 116 children displaced by the conflict with Russia. Marneuli Youth Bank is planning to organize more volunteer non-EPF funded initiatives, such as "Anti-drugs Marathon" with participation of Marneuli youth, to bicycle rides across Georgia popularizing healthy life styles among their peers. Beginning September, 2009 Marneuli Youth Bank will launch the second cycle of grants competition following the community needs assessment.

Project Office Tbilisi/Georgia of the German Adult Education Association

C07-4014

\$11,220

Tbilisi, Georgia

9/1/2007 - 2/11/2008

The countries of the South Caucasus share many common challenges in the field of vocational education. The absence of effective policymaking and public misperceptions has led to a decline in the region's national vocational education systems, which already adversely affects economic development and employment levels in all three countries. Working with its partners from Armenia and Azerbaijan, the branch office of the "German Adult Education Association" in Georgia sought to develop high quality, comparative policy analysis and recommendations for relevant government ministries on vocational education in the context of the EU's European Neighborhood Policy (ENP). Using a unified research methodology, the three partners conducted a comprehensive, comparative research and analysis of legal and practical contexts of vocational education in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. Each grantee periodically convened a working group consisting of local stakeholders in their respective country to help shape the contents of the policy report. The partners delivered one integrated regional public policy report that featured an overview of vocational education problems in the three countries of the South Caucasus, country-by-country policy analysis, EU and ENP-related mechanisms for addressing vocational education, and policy advice to be brought to the attention of national governments. The project was successful in proving that local NGOs/policy research institutions could effectively and efficiently provide with

much-needed expertise in developing fundamental policy roadmaps to meet national ENP commitments.

Association of Doctors and Psychologists of Georgia

G04-0129

\$34,201

Tbilisi, Georgia

10/1/2004 - 12/31/2007

The health care system has become one of the most poorly managed systems in Georgia. Recently initiated reforms (including the privatization of secondary healthcare) attempt to address the physical dilapidation and inadequate managerial structure of the system. Implementing clinical guidelines to protect the rights of patients was considered a necessary step in improving clinical management. By conducting a sociological survey, developing the guidelines and conducting a clinical audit, the grantee - Association of Doctors and Psychologists of Georgia - intended to introduce a methodology of internal assessment (clinical audits) in the medical facilities in Georgia. The project team created and trained audit teams in the three target medical facilities. However due to staffing changes, clinical audits did not take place: staff from two facilities, the Central Clinical Hospital of the Tbilisi State Medical University and Municipality Clinic #1 of Batumi, were reallocated to other medical facilities as a result of a structural reorganization and the third target facility, LTD Center of Neurosurgery, was not able to allocate sufficient budgetary resources for a clinical audit despite their commitment to do so during the project design phase.

Civil Society Institute, Tbilisi

G06-0045

\$37,000

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2007 - 1/31/2008

Improving the capacity of the staff of newly created municipal bodies is a crucial component in the pursuit of efficient self-governance in Georgia. Through a combination of targeted stakeholder assessments and municipal staff training sessions, the grantee - the Civil Society Institute - replaced outdated operational methods in various divisions of Batumi City Hall. The project increased the efficiency of Batumi City Hall's human resource policy, established modern methods of administration, and promoted the transparency and openness of the City Hall's function, encouraging public participation in City Hall's activities. The grantee elaborated on a series of recommendations and a concept for increasing the efficiency of the Batumi City Hall. The subsequent new charters, developed by the grantee and based upon the recommendations, expedited the legal and administrative reforms in the City Hall and reduced the number of citizen complaints. City Hall, which was so engaged in the project that it even increased the number of participants in the municipal management training from 93 to 110, now saves considerable time and resources in serving its citizens.

Georgian Association of Publishers

G01-2025

\$36,832

Tbilisi, Georgia

10/1/2001 - 5/15/2003

After the collapse of the centrally planned economy, the Georgian publishing industry fell into disarray. The state no longer dictated what was to be published, few entrepreneurs knew how to run a publishing business, and black market products conquered the market leaving little room for higher quality and more expensive books. To address these challenges, the Georgian Association of Publishers conducted comprehensive surveys of consumers and producers to analyze sector-specific problems. The findings of these surveys together with a set of recommendations on publication standards were presented to interested publishers. The project also tackled the black market problem by organizing textbook fairs in Tbilisi and the regional centers, Kutaisi and Batumi. These fairs attracted a large number of consumers and generated an increase in the sales of licensed books. The project attempted to boost public interest in the problems of the publishing industry by publishing a monthly insert in the Dilis Gazeti Newspaper. The grantee also developed legislative proposals, which were presented to the parliament. However, this activity did not entail any changes in the existing regulations. Two years after completion of the project the association merged with other union of publishers, Georgian Book Publishers and Booksellers Association. The new entity continues promotion of the publishing industry by organizing book fairs and acting as an advocacy institution for publishing companies.

Public Center of Freedom and Democracy

G02-6001

\$34,496

Poti, Georgia

9/1/2002 - 3/1/2004

The public participation in anti-corruption activities and civic monitoring of the government is a key component of participatory democracy in local governance. The project was funded through the anti-corruption watchdog competition - joint initiative of the EFG and OSGF. The fruitful partnership with experienced NGO and the local media outlets increased impact of the monitoring of the Poti municipal budget by civic organizations, revealed cases of corruption and mobilized local civic sectors to engage in a dialogue with the city government to deal with the problem. The permanent participation in budget discussions, creation of a monitoring group and wide-scale public information campaign (newspaper insertions, 10,000 leaflets of 4 types about budget and 10 TV and radio broadcasts and PSA devoted to the project) about misuse of the budgetary funds forced the city government to make the city budget more transparent, withhold questionable contracts and tenders and direct money to the public needs. The wide involvement of communities contributed to the increased accountability of the city government and significantly inhibited misappropriation of the municipal budgetary funds. The organization increased its capabilities as civic watchdog and created a positive precedent of effective public participation in the budget processes.

The Georgian Union of Mountain Activists

G06-0087

\$25,005

Tbilisi, Georgia

1/20/2007 - 4/15/2008

The Georgian mountains already attract a significant number of tourists interested in hiking. This flow of tourists creates a natural demand for qualified mountain guides. In the absence of formal training institutions, self-trained guides do not often know how to develop and manage hiking tours. The project addressed this problem by educating individuals interested in working as guides in seven mountainous regions of Georgia, including Upper and Lower Svaneti, Racha, Khevi, Khevsureti, Pshavi, Gudamakari, and Shida Kartli. The grantee - the Georgian Union of Mountain Activists - conducted a workshop for 35 individuals (some already had been serving as guides and others not) on different aspects of safety, emergency medical care, camping, hiking equipment, and food selection for expeditions. In addition, practice expeditions were conducted in participants' respective regions, providing trainees the opportunity to mark tourist routes. The project also developed reference publications, including a manual for mountain guides and a special English-Georgian dictionary, 250 copies of which were distributed among participants and a wider audience in various mountainous regions. Equipped with these skills and materials, training participants are now able to provide improved services to tourists, which can lead to increased employment opportunities as tour operators expand activities in Georgia's mountainous regions.

Union "Svaneti Tourism Center"

G07-3002

\$20,412

Svaneti, Georgia

10/1/2007 - 4/30/2008

Development of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) working in the area of tourism is hampered by the lack of understanding of how to organize and effectively manage a tourism business. This is particularly true in the mountainous regions of Svaneti and Racha, which have been unable to tap into their significant tourism potential. The project addressed this problem by providing six trainings for 101 guesthouse owners in the towns of Mestia, Lentekhi, and Oni in the following fields: bed and breakfast management standards, financial management and accounting, taxes and relations with the Tax Agency, customer service, etc. The grantee also assisted participants in developing redesign projects for their houses to adapt them to the needs of tourists. Twenty seven projects were developed. The training was designed to complement the government-sponsored Employment Initiative 2007, which provides subsidized loans to tourism SMEs through a partnership with ProCredit Bank. Unfortunately, the grantee reported that only two of the participants received subsidized loans due to ProCredit Bank's cautious lending approach to guesthouse operators in these regions. Nonetheless, the trainings received very positive assessments and were found particularly valuable by the participants during a time when there was a significant influx of tourists to these regions. One of the tangible achievements of the projects is that participants from the villages of Mazeri, Iprali, Adishi, and Ushguli improved the sanitation systems of their houses. Other participants used the knowledge received through the trainings to set prices for their products and services.

Union for Civil Society

G07-0037

\$29,664

Tbilisi, Georgia

10/1/2007 - 12/20/2008

The goal of the project was to promote the peace building process between Georgian and Abkhazian society through person to person dialogue and with the cooperation of civil society organizations from both sides. The grantee - the Union for Civil Society - was responsible for analyzing the current legislation in Georgia and Abkhazia in order to identify possible obstacles to closer economic ties. This analysis provided the platform for recommendations to support the development of bilateral economic relations in the short run and conflict resolution as an eventual goal. The grantee held a series of meetings in Armenia between representatives of civil society organizations from Georgia and Abkhazia, where they discussed the output of the project and formulated evidence-based policy recommendations to strengthen economic ties. The grantee identified common economic fields where Georgia and Abkhazia could have bilateral cooperation, particularly for SMEs. It also established business linkages between the parties of the conflict. The grantee elaborated policy recommendations, however, subsequent changes to the environment, specifically Russia's and Nicaragua's recognition of Abkhazia's independence, have made them irrelevant.

American Chamber of Commerce in Georgia

G08-0034

\$547

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 3/7/2008

One of the key impediments to the development of the Georgian tourism sector is the lack of information on tourism opportunities. While there are publications with the general information on the country, there is an obvious lack of information on the regions, towns, and major destinations. The project addressed this problem by developing electronic versions of high quality Georgian-English brochures on major regions such as Mtskheta-Mtianeti, Upper Svaneti, Racha-Lechkhumi, Samegrelo, Guria, Pshav-Khevsureti, Imereti, Tusheti, Lower Kartli, Javakheti, and sites such as Vardzia and surroundings, Kazbegi, David Gareja and surroundings, Britvisi, and Tbilisi surroundings. Additionally, tourism product leaflets were developed promoting different types of tourism such as cultural, ecological, bird watching, arts and crafts, harvest, jeep safari and agricultural tours. The samples of the publications were discussed through three focus groups involving representatives of the expatriate community, local tourists, and tourism professionals. The draft publications were also circulated among the members of the American Chamber of Commerce to receive their feedback. EPF is further pursuing the project by arranging printing of the electronic versions of the publications. A number of governmental agencies, such as the State Department of Tourism and Resorts, Tbilisi Mayor's Office, and Administration of Tusheti Protected Areas expressed their interest in taking over the project by covering printing costs as well as reworking the maps developed through the project. The negotiations are still underway. The brochures will be distributed among tourist information centers and will be posted on the official site of the State Department of Tourism and Resorts. The project will increase access to quality and accurate information on the Georgian tourism sector for both local and international tourists.

Association "Green Alternative" - GA

G08-0029

\$13,872

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 1/10/2009

After the Rose Revolution in 2003, the new government began to focus on decentralization of government power. Unfortunately, this decentralization was infrequently accompanied by education of the regional authorities, causing confusion and inefficiency at the local level. During the project, the grantee conducted four trainings in the underserved regions of Oni (two), Ambrolauri and Lentekhi to educate both representatives of the communities and the local authorities on the basics of forest sector decentralization. In total, 129 community leaders and local officials participated (39 female/90 male). Additional participatory meetings for strategic planning in Tbilisi and the regions involved 15 NGOs that work on either environmental or local governance issues, creating a forum for civic discussion. Participants jointly elaborated several recommendations about decentralizing forest management. During the project, the grantee conducted 26 acts of field monitoring that included monitoring of state of forests to be transferred, the readiness of local authorities for this and monitoring of the government's policy in this field. The findings were posted on www.greenalt.org, www.forestgeo.net and www.aarhus.dsl.ge, which were visited by almost 500 individuals. The grantee prepared two publications: the Manual on Decentralization of the Forestry Sector and Monitoring of the Georgian Forest Sector 2007-2008. They were distributed in Tbilisi and the target regions, including local governance bodies. At a seminar in December 2008, the grantee included the Minister of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources and other stakeholders in the discussion about forest management and local governance. The discussion contributed to significant changes in the government's forest policy, affecting the taking of inventory of local forests and defining regulations about the use of forests by the local authorities prior to the actual transfer. Recommendations made during the discussion were given to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources and the Parliamentary Committee for Environmental Protection and Natural Resources. Based upon the grantee's recommendation, the ministry created a 20-person working group to take inventory of the forests. In December 2008, the communities trained within the project held a protest rally before the Ministry of Economic Development and demanded that auctions for long-term use and management of local forests be cancelled. The local media covered the protest, which was also supported by the local governments of the target regions. As a result, the Ministry of Economic Development abolished the previous controversial decree on granting special licenses for long-term use of forests for logging, which had given an unfair advantage to companies and deprived citizens of access to wood. This cooperative action was enabled by the grantee's training seminars and public information campaign. The Ministry's resulting decision improved access to the wood in the forests, benefiting not only the project's three target regions but the population of 20 other regions of Georgia.

Association for Protection of Landowners Rights (APLR)

G08-0100

\$15,736

Tbilisi, Georgia

9/22/2008 - 12/22/2008

After the conflict with Russia in August 2008, the Georgian government quickly moved to support displaced families. Because of the urgency and magnitude of the problem, the government needed external assistance. Through this project, EPF supported the Association for the Protection of Landowners Rights in assisting the government to resettle quickly IDPs. In cooperation with the government, the grantee identified state-owned land plots in Kaspi, Gori, Kareli, and Khashuri districts that were large enough and appropriate for accommodating up to 300 displaced families. The Association for the Protection of Landowners Rights performed cadastre works (an official register of the quantity, value, and ownership of real estate) and provided an assessment to the Public Registry, the agency responsible for registration of property. The selected land parcels were then used by the government to construct temporary dwellings for 300 displaced families. The project was expanded to meet the needs of more IDP families who would not be able to return to their homes in the near future.

Association of Young Economists of Georgia - AYEG

G08-0047

\$35,338

Tbilisi, Georgia

6/1/2008 - 3/31/2009

Developing the capacity of Georgian civil society organizations (CSOs) in fundraising is an important component of the sustainability of the civic sector. The grantee - Association of Young Economists of Georgia (AYEG) - conducted a survey of 300 CSOs to prepare a baseline assessment of the fundraising needs of the civic sector. With this, AYEG adapted seven books about fundraising by well-known authors to the needs of local organizations. The grantee trained representatives from 40 CSOs from throughout the country in modern methods of fundraising and provided follow-up consultations. AYEG also published a guidebook on fundraising for non-profit organizations. The combination of these activities allowed more than 700 grassroots CSOs to learn about the essentials of efficient fundraising. Seventy percent of the trainees have already started to fundraise by submitting projects to other donors. The baseline study is also available for use by other donors and CSOs working to develop the capacity of the civic sector in Georgia. In addition, the guidebook is available online at AYEG's website.

Batumi Youth Bank

G08-7002

\$1,780

Batumi, Georgia

12/1/2008 - 4/10/2009

In a community needs assessment, the Batumi Youth Bank members found that young people in Batumi, Kobuleti, and nearby villages are concerned about their education and lack opportunities to engage in sports. In response, the Batumi Youth Bank announced a grant competition for youth-led initiatives to address these issues. The Youth Bank received 24 applications, shortlisted six of them for closer evaluation, and selected four for funding. The grantees have already successfully completed project activities: (1) In the project Intellectual Games, the initiative group purchased 20 books, stationary, and a white board and conducted intellectual games for Kobuleti Public School #3 to improve the students' scholastic development; (2) In the project Help to Orphans, the initiative group mobilized community resources to provide food and hygienic items to the children

of the Batumi orphanage. (3) In Intellectual Games for Kindergartners, the project team purchased books, games, and videos for the local kindergarten; and, (4) Through the project Football Tournament for Socially Isolated Youth, the initiative group brought together adolescents from two public schools and youth with special needs from three schools in Batumi for a football tournament.

Biological Farming Association Elkana

G08-0019

\$8,441

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 7/15/2008

Development of small and medium enterprises working in the area of tourism is hampered by numerous problems, including the lack of basic understanding of how a tourism business can be organized and managed effectively. The project addressed this problem by providing trainings for tourism-related SMEs in Samtskhe-Javakheti and Tusheti. The grantee - Elkana Biological Farming Association - carried out five seminars involving 76 representatives of the tourism industry in Borjomi, Bakuriani, Aspindza, Akhaltsikhe, and Alvani. The trainings covered such issues as service standards for guesthouses, introduction to business administration, guesthouse renovation and maintenance needs, promotion and sales, etc. The workshops included four days of class work and one-day study trips to experienced local SMEs. Participants highly valued the trainings and seven participants became permanent members of Elkana. In addition to the trainings, unspent grant money was used to publish a new edition of a manual for small guesthouses, called "Meals for Tourists," which was widely distributed throughout the country. The project complemented the government-sponsored loan program administered by ProCredit Bank as well as credit facilitation initiatives supported by international aid organizations. During the project period, five of the project participants received loans from ProCredit Bank. Four more entrepreneurs accessed grant support from the USAID-funded Georgia Employment and Infrastructure Initiative (GEII) and Small and Medium Enterprise Support Project. Toward the end of the project, Elkana organized a tour to Samtskhe-Javakheti for Tbilisi based tour operators as part of the Wine Tourism Project, which is funded by Swiss Development Corporation. Elkana continues to build relationships between local guesthouses and tour operations.

Center of Democracy and Civil Integration

G08-3004

\$2,996

Tbilisi, Georgia

11/24/2008 - 3/31/2009

As a result of the recent political and economic challenges in Georgia, there has been a steady increase in religious, ethnic, and cultural tensions in the country. To develop intercultural awareness and facilitate greater tolerance and understanding of the needs of minorities in Tbilisi, the project team trained a core group of youth agents of change. These twenty-five young people, trained in religious and ethnic tolerance, then communicated these messages to a wider community. Through meetings with representatives of different religious faiths and celebrities from various ethnic groups, the project fostered intercultural understanding among the targeted young people. The website created in the project opened a forum for the exchange of ideas, allowing project participants and stakeholders to express their personal commitment to tolerance and contribute to the public

awareness campaign. An essay competition organized for the secondary school students on the issues of tolerance helped the students to develop independent judgment, critical thinking, and ethical reasoning skills.

Centre for Training and Consultancy

G08-0013

\$9,336

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 5/15/2008

Though the development of small and medium enterprises working in the area of tourism is hampered by numerous issues, one of the most acute problems is the lack of basic understanding of how to organize and efficiently manage a tourism business. The project addressed this problem by providing specialized trainings for entrepreneurs in Mtskheta-Mtianeti and Kakheti, two of the most tourist popular regions of Georgia. Four trainings involving 69 individuals were carried out in the towns of Mtskheta, Telavi, and Signaghi. The seminars focused primarily on service marketing and financial management. They covered such issues as service design, pricing, cost and revenue planning, tax calculation, etc. The trainings, which were highly regarded, came at a time when substantial investments were being attracted to these regions. This is particularly true for the town of Signaghi, where the government and private sector completely renovated the entire town leading to a substantial increase in the number of domestic and international tourists. The training evaluation showed that participants particularly valued professional advice in the areas of financial planning and marketing. The project will contribute to the improvement of local entrepreneurs' management capacity as well as the quality of services offered by them.

Civic Education Youth Center

G08-0014

\$10,722

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 11/30/2008

Privatization of agrarian lands in Georgia was a complicated issue that took place through a very opaque process. Generally speaking, including public oversight is an effective way to prevent fraud and increase the transparency of the process. The project involved local communities in the monitoring of the land privatization in these regions and contributed to a mutually advantageous dialogue between the local governments and communities. The grantee assisted appropriate local governance bodies in the creation of an accurate database of the lands to be privatized and provided about 1,500 beneficiaries with a guidebook about the rules of privatization of agrarian lands. The monthly newsletter "Your Rights During Privatization" (500 copies) also significantly improved the awareness of communities of their rights. From the target communities (Signaghi and Qvareli), 370 previously reluctant citizens decided to participate in the land privatization and land auctions. Through a proactive information campaign, including meetings with communities of four target villages (about 1,200 villagers) and TV talk shows on TV-Gurjaani, the grantee increased the number of communities that are better informed about land privatization procedures. The talk shows were so popular among the local residents that after the completion of the grant, the station has continued to produce and air them. Based on information gathered through the project, the grantee

prepared recommendations to correct identified loopholes in the respective legislation, including ambiguous presidential decree #525 regulating the privatization of lands.

Education Development Institute

G08-0015

\$9,942

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 5/14/2008

Curricula reform is a central piece of university-level education reform in Georgia. The reform process has posed the need for a guiding document for curricular reform combined with the need for a guiding document for programmatic accreditation of universities. These needs coincided with Georgia joining the Bologna process, the aim of which is to ensure compatibility of academic degrees throughout Europe. As a participant in the Bologna process, Georgia committed itself to the development of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), a document outlining the cycles of university education described by learning outcomes, workload, title of qualification, types of award for different cycles, link between cycles, and life-long learning. The project developed such a document with the participation of academics, nongovernmental organizations, and the Ministry of Education and Science representatives. The project carried out several working group meetings as well as a wider forum of academics to elaborate the document. The Ministry accepted it and posted it on the official web-site (www.mes.gov.ge) to receive further feedback. The finalized document to be officially adopted by a normative act will be sent to the Council of Europe Secretariat for Education. In addition to the development of NQF, the project elaborated Benchmark Statements for four specialties - Biology, Psychology, Banking, and Business Administration-which describe learning outcomes and teaching methods for specific fields. The project team is currently involved in a TEMPUS funded project, Tuning Education Structures in Europe, which aims to develop Benchmark Statements for ten more specializations. NQF, together with Benchmark Statements, will create the basis for curricula reform and programmatic accreditation of Georgian universities. The project's merit is the involvement of a wide community of academics in the elaboration of major guiding documents, which will ensure a more effective implementation of reforms.

Environment and Agriculture

C07-4009

\$1,000

Tbilisi, Georgia

5/1/2008 - 5/31/2008

Sustainable rural development largely depends on the availability of the adequate amount of energy carriers. The three-country partnership consortium utilized the contact (seed) project to develop a (full) linkage proposal that would address the issue of promoting the anaerobic digestion (AD) technology as an alternative solution to livestock waste management and a substitute for using firewood as an energy carrier among rural communities throughout the South Caucasus. The contact project also aimed at the development of cross-border cooperation between involved experts, construction, and rural communities. Implementation of the contact project resulted in the development of a linkage proposal; however the latter was not competitive enough for EPF to further support the initiative.

Foundation Civil Development Agency (CiDA)

G08-0051

\$31,819

Rustavi, Georgia

6/1/2008 - 1/31/2009

Involvement of regional populations, especially ethnic minorities in the public discussion of education reforms and improving their accessibility to quality education is an important part of reforms. The grantee embraced the major regions of Kvemo Kartli (city of Rustavi, Gardabani, Bolnisi, Marneuli, Dmanisi, Tsalka and Tetritskaro districts) and involved community groups, professional associations, authorities and the various stakeholders, including Azeri ethnic minority groups, in the public discussions about various problematic issues of education in the country and in the region. The grantee surveyed 300 respondents and organized focus groups with 200 participants. The project arranged 7 public discussions about the burning issues of education reform that involved 286 persons, including heads of resource centers, school headmasters and teachers from different districts, which improved communications between them. The public meetings and newspaper insert gave the beneficiaries the opportunity to share experiences and good practices and deliver their opinion to a wide range of audience and authorities. Although financial shortcomings didn't allow the "Timer" newspaper to maintain biweekly frequency of publishing after the project, it maintained the inserts "Self-governance Messenger" and "Education of the Future" which were integrated in the newspaper. The "Timer" newspaper reached 2000 citizens, among them 252 schools of the region, including 106 for ethnic minorities, 7 resource centers of the Ministry of Education as well as 300 addressees, including businesses, NGOs political parties and education trade unions. The findings and conclusions revealed during the project were submitted to the Ministry of Science and Education. Through the distribution of the insert "Education of the Future" in the local independent newspaper "Timer" the project created a mechanism for transparency of primary and higher educational process in the region and simultaneously strengthened the popularity of the "Timer" newspaper. Since the end of the project, the reciprocal links interrelation between the newspaper and its target audience has been maintained. Rustavi Resource Center asked the grantee for assistance in organizing the public event. The newspaper still provides space for the materials about education reform and contributes to proactive citizen participation in the education reform in the region.

Georgian Association of Marketing (GAMA)

G08-0012

\$551

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 7/31/2008

Business education in Georgia has been progressing rapidly due to growing demand from the private sector. Though there have been significant achievements, the development of Georgian business schools has been constrained by a number of factors, including the lack of Georgian language textbooks in the field. Most business schools use English language textbooks, thereby limiting students' access to business education. The project aimed at addressing this problem by translating the most widely-used marketing textbook, "Marketing: An Introduction" by Gary Armstrong and Philip Kotler, from English into Georgian. In addition to the translation of the textbook, the project developed 19 case studies and 16 marketing vignettes about Georgian companies, which

were included in the publication. The case studies and vignettes relate general marketing concepts to concrete cases of Georgian companies, increasing the applicability of the concepts discussed in the textbook. One thousand copies of the book were published: 200 were distributed free of charge and the remaining 800 were sold. The majority of universities teaching business education are using the book. The revenues from the book sale have been used to sustain the grantee's efforts in the area of marketing education. The proceeds were used to fund two more projects, translation and publication of a more advanced marketing textbook for further education, "Marketing Research" by Naresh Malhotra and Mark Peterson, and the development of a dictionary of marketing terms. The project has increased Georgian students' and marketing practitioners' access to modern marketing literature.

Georgian Book Publishers and Booksellers Association

G08-0009

\$19,761

Tbilisi, Georgia

4/14/2008 - 10/24/2008

The Georgian publishing sector suffered after the collapse of the centrally planned economy. Weak demand for publications was one of the greatest challenges faced by local publishers. There were also weak links between local and international publishers. The project addressed these problems by expanding the annual Tbilisi Book Fair into an international fair covering the Black Sea Region. The first international fair in Tbilisi served as a forum for sharing experiences and discussing problems faced by 18 international companies from Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Turkey, Moldova, Romania, Russia and 80 local publishers. About 10,000 people attended the four-day festival (June 27-30), which was well covered in the local media. Five international agreements were signed between representatives of publishing companies from different countries and some international publishers even expressed an interest in translating and further popularizing the work of Georgian writers. At the same time, the grantee interviewed consumers and publishers to assess the state of Georgian book publishers. The Black Sea International Book Fair was followed by a seminar on copyright and international marketing with specially invited international speakers. Approximately 80 representatives attended the seminar, including 18 from foreign companies.

Georgian Young Lawyers Association

G08-0017

\$16,451

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 6/30/2008

Education of voters is one of the compelling problems for securing fair elections in the transitional countries like Georgia. To increase free and fair decisions during the January 5, 2008 presidential and May 21, 2008 parliamentary elections the grantee implemented a large scale campaign for education of voters in cooperation with the popular daily "Rezonansi." Along with Georgians the project embraced large groups of Azeri and Armenian voters in regions (Kvemo Kartli and Samtskhe -Javakheti). The 26 articles and 4 columns about essentials of elections and plebiscite and possibly ways of vote-rigging written in the Georgian, Azeri and Armenian languages were disseminated as special inserts in the "Rezonansi" daily. The grantee prepared and disseminated countrywide the tri-lingual (Georgian, Azeri, Armenian) comprehensive report about monitoring of

the early presidential/parliamentary elections and the plebiscite. The reports informed the public about the detected violations of election rules. Five round-tables about election-related issues with participation of CSOs and the media generated several recommendations for improvement of fairness of elections. Two recommendations about limiting the use of administrative resources by officials were accepted by the Central Electoral Commission. As a result of the project about 30,000 voters (including 5000 minorities), bridged a gap in their knowledge about electoral procedures by receiving useful information through the popular newspaper and increased their awareness of fair elections and citizenry. The project contributed to the proactive involvement of civic sector and media in citizen information and participation.

Human Rights Protection Centre

G08-0020

\$15,100

Batumi, Georgia

3/1/2008 - 4/10/2009

The participation of citizens and the media in monitoring their local governments' performance is an essential component of democratic development. To that end, the Batumi-based Human Rights Protection Center's project focused on enhancing the transparency of budget allocations for municipal improvements. Through comprehensive trainings in budget monitoring, the grantee proactively engaged the Batumi Condominium Association and the local media (journalists from the local newspaper and television and radio stations) in the monitoring process. After the training, ten leading members of the Condominium Association became directly involved in the budget monitoring process. The trainings also helped journalists provide professional coverage of budgetary issues in their media outlets. The resulting media coverage (26 programs) gave all members of the Condominium Association and the general public access to regular and exhaustive information about past and current municipal improvement works conducted by Batumi City Hall. The Human Rights Protection Center informed the chief of the municipal improvement service and Batumi mayor of the violations revealed during the monitoring, which were then addressed. The Batumi City Council recognized the value of civil society engagement and included CSOs in the oversight of the implementation of the condominiums' targeted programs for 2009. During the project, the grantee helped increase the involvement of citizens in the monitoring of municipal improvements by encouraging the creation of new condominium associations. The Human Rights Protection Center provided over 140 consultations on the municipal budget and more than 90 legal consultations on establishing new associations. Indeed, a survey conducted in Batumi by the grantee in the middle of the project indicated that 79% of those polled wanted to be involved in budgetary processes. After intense negotiations, the Human Rights Protection Center and the Batumi City Council agreed to create a permanent joint working group (including CSOs, representatives of condominiums, the media, and the public) to supervise the expenditure of the funds allocated for municipal improvements, including spending for condominiums. The creation of the working group is a major success of the project, demonstrating that properly planned participatory civic monitoring coupled with a proactive media campaign can result in effective citizen participation in the local decision-making process.

Ilia Chavchavadze State University

G08-0028

\$16,986

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 9/30/2008

The project enhanced the newly-established Master of Social Work (MSW) Program at Ilia Chavchavadze State University by creating a departmental resource center, developing Georgian language teaching materials, and training field work instructors. The resource center was equipped with computers, hard copies of textbooks (about 50 books were specially purchased), and access to electronic libraries. Georgian language readers with major texts were developed for twelve courses. A special web-site (www.msw-iliuni.net) was created, which serves as an updatable repository of syllabi and various teaching materials. In order to improve the quality of internships, an international consultant trained more than thirty field instructors in how to provide supervision for the second-year master's students. The trainees were also equipped with a field manual with specific recommendations on how to coordinate and assess student work. The project improved both the theoretical and practical components of the MSW Program by equipping the department with teaching and research resources and strengthening the link between students and social service agencies where they receive practical training. The project was timed to contribute to the reform of Georgia's social service system. Through the project, Ilia Chavchavadze State University created the new position of internship coordinator to support the master's program. Since the end of the financial support from EPF, the position has been funded by the university.

Institute of Social Studies and Analysis - ISSA

G08-0016

\$14,795

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 11/30/2008

Drug abuse and the spread of various blood and autoimmune diseases among young people remains one of the biggest problems facing Georgia's society today. Based on the results of broad research on the issues of drug abuse and safe sex targeting 3000 young people aged between 15-18 in 98 public schools of 9 regions of Georgia, the grantee - the Institute of Social Studies and Analysis (ISSA) - prepared and conducted training modules on HIV/AIDS in the context of drug abuse and unsafe sex in 44 public schools to 1800 students and 180 teachers of public schools all over Georgia. In addition to the education campaign, the project team has developed various outreach tools and promotional materials in order to increase young people's awareness of HIV/AIDS and how to minimize the risks associated with the disease. The final survey conducted by the ISSA among the same target group demonstrated considerable improvements in knowledge, attitude and behavior of the risks and means of preventing HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. Results of the quantitative and qualitative research have been published in the following peer reviewed research journal: "Universal" (Kachkachishvili I, Nizharadze G, Jandieri G, 2008 Nights of AIDS). The publication on research findings will be published in the International Journal of Health and Clinical Psychology (Social Psychological Predictors of High-Risk Sexual Behavior and Drug Use among Adolescents in the Georgian Republic), Goodwin R, Kachkachishvili I, Nizharadze G.).

Inter-ethnic Union of Kvemo Kartli

G08-3003

\$2,435

Bolnisi, Georgia

10/1/2008 - 2/15/2009

The incomprehensive and slow integration of ethnic minorities into Georgian social, economic and political life has created obstacles to building a unified, cohesive society in Georgia. The region of Kvemo Kartli, densely populated by the Azerbaijani ethnic minority and other ethnic groups, is more prone to interethnic conflict because of religious stereotypes and prejudices and a lack of information and intercultural awareness. Through a targeted information campaign, three theatre performances, one photo exhibition and exchange visits among the residents of multiethnic villages in the region, the project helped about 700 residents of isolated ethnic minorities of the region of Kvemo Kartli to increase their religious and cultural awareness and learn the basics of tolerance.

International Business Development and Investment Promotion Center - IBDIPC

G08-0018

\$0

Batumi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 2/10/2008

In order to address the lack of professional development and employment opportunities for youth in the remote areas of Georgia, the project provided young people from mountainous Adjara, an area with significant tourism potential, with a tourism training opportunity. Twenty two individuals from the village of Nigazeuli went through a 15-day training in various aspects of small hotel operation. The workshops targeted individuals whose families were already running guesthouses or were planning to start one. The seminar covered such issues as business planning, marketing, providing guided tours, etc. The project complemented the efforts of CHF International's Georgia Employment and Infrastructure Initiative, which provided small grants for the renovation of guesthouses in this area. Six training participants subsequently received CHF grants and renovated their houses. The project also had a media component, which included publishing inserts in the newspaper "Batumelebi," which aimed to popularize tourism-related jobs among the young people of Adjara. Last summer 55 tourists visited Nigazeuli village, among which were 25 international tourists. The project contributed to the improvement of the quality of services provided by local guesthouse operators.

International Center of Trade Policy and Law

C08-4001

\$10,422

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 8/12/2008

The proposed linkage grant contributed to the economic development of the countries of the South Caucasus by developing the capacity of local businesses to export goods and services. The partners focused on promoting locally produced goods and services through the development of quality print, electronic and web based versions of a South Caucasus Export Catalogue. The catalogue featured comprehensive information on procedures and service providers located in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia and were distributed through embassies, consulates and large importing-exporting organizations in foreign countries.

Junior Achievement Georgia

G08-0024

\$9,531

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 7/31/2008

The quality of economics education is low in Georgia, especially at the level of high schools, which lack qualified teachers to deliver introductory economics courses. The project addressed this problem by delivering economics training to 379 teachers from all over the country to use the Civic Economics Program, which is based on the Junior Achievement Applied Economics textbooks. The pool of trainees was subdivided into teachers who required more in-depth training and those who had some experience in teaching economics. In addition to theoretical training, teachers were instructed in how to lead a practical segment of Civic Economics program called Student Company, which teaches students how to start and manage a real business. All participating teachers received Civic Economics books and workbooks, which were printed with the support of ProCredit Bank. At the end of the project 50 Student Companies created by teachers who went through the training took part in the competition organized by Junior Achievement Georgia with the support from Saradjishvli Company and the Batumi Municipality. The competition identified the best Student Company. It also included an essay writing component, involving 500 individual students. The winners were awarded special prizes. The project received coverage in Business Courier, a major business program on Rustavi 2 television channel and the Business News Journal.

Justice and Liberty Association

G08-0027

\$152

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 2/15/2009

Civic oversight and public awareness of Georgia's defense and security agencies are important components of the country's integration into Euro-Atlantic structures (NATO, EU and others). Through two training sessions for journalists, the grantee - Justice and Liberty Association - increased the Georgian media's knowledge and awareness about Georgia's integration and contributed to more professional coverage of this important issue in the press. Over a 14-month period, 170 newspaper articles and TV and radio programs were prepared and published in the Georgian media. The grantee established constructive cooperation with the NATO Information Center and participated in eight meetings reviewing the implementation of the Georgia-NATO Individual Partnership Action Plan (IPAP), visiting several military units to conduct monitoring. Based on these results, the grantee published and disseminated the brochure "Georgia-NATO - 1999-2008." The grantee also published the paper "Transparency of the Defense Ministry - 2007," which provided a basis for discussion in the relevant executive bodies and the parliament's defense and security committee. The grantee provided a draft concept on improving the ministry's public relations policy to increase transparency. Ministry officials, in turn, began participating in seminars and conferences conducted by CSOs. The grantee organized public discussions around the draft bill on establishing a military ombudsman and submitted recommendations on that bill and several other laws related to military service to parliament. The project contributed to establishing sustained public oversight of the Defense Ministry, which has historically been one of the most closed ministries. After the project, the director of the grantee organization maintained a seat on the

Advisory Council to the State Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, providing civil society with the opportunity to monitor the integration process and a means of making recommendations directly to the ministry.

Kutaisi Informational Center

G08-4021

\$21,358

Kutaisi, Georgia

10/1/2008 - 4/30/2009

In fall 2008, EPF funded the Kutaisi Information Center to enhance an important municipal service - optimization of solid waste management and environmental safety of the city of Kutaisi through participatory civic monitoring of the city's cleaning service. The project was implemented in the 12 condominium areas of Kutaisi and involved five 12-member action groups composed of representatives of CSOs, local officials, experts, and proactive citizens. The grantee provided training on waste management, civic monitoring and advocacy, and specific legislation regulating municipal improvements for these community groups, the media, and CSOs. The grantee also produced a booklet about the environmental hazards of improper waste management to raise awareness among these groups. The action groups were involved in conducting a public survey, problem analysis, needs assessment, and resource inventory; providing training in monitoring techniques; elaborating a monitoring plan; performing a public information campaign; and submitting recommendations to the respective authorities. Kutaisi-based media outlets, including the newspaper Akhali Gazeti, Radio Dzveli Kalaki, and Rioni TV, provided wide coverage of the project, informing the public about the importance of waste management. Project results were also available on www.imereti.ge. The involvement of the media gave additional impetus to the monitoring and advocacy campaign and contributed to an open dialogue between the grantee and the city government about waste management issues. During the project, the Kutaisi Information Center involved a member of the City Council in monitoring and problem analysis. A package of recommendations for improving waste management was submitted to the elected City Council. The recommendations were accompanied by a list of shortcomings backed by photo evidence with suggestions for corrective actions, such as building a modern landfill, halting the dumping of environmentally hazardous waste in the area, and adopting special local regulations on waste management. The Kutaisi Information Center elaborated and submitted to the city government a full action plan for improving city cleaning service and waste management. The City Council partially accepted the recommendations and instructed City Hall to take them into account. Based on the recommendations the city officials decided to train cleaning service providers in waste management issues and create a working group composed of officials, environment experts, and CSOs to improve the quality of cleaning service and prepare a budget program for modernizing the city's trash dump. The grantee continues to follow-up on the process using the resources created during the project.

Marneuli Youth Bank

G08-7003

\$2,177

Marneuli, Georgia

12/1/2008 - 4/7/2009

The community needs assessment conducted by Marneuli Youth Bank members revealed that young people in Marneuli District lack opportunities to be actively involved in sports. Another prioritized problem identified during the community needs assessment was environmental pollution. In response to these findings, the Marneuli YouthBank announced a grant competition for local youth-led initiative groups. Five projects to address the above-mentioned problems were selected for funding: (1) Four Public Schools of Marneuli participated in the sports competition organized through the project Funs Sports Game, (2) 57 young people participated in cleaning of the central street and central park in Marneuli through the project Protect Nature, (3) Five youth volleyball teams, including two girls' teams, were formed in the villages of Orjonikidze and Tsereteli to participate in a volleyball tournament organized through the project Volleyball, (4) 160 students from eight schools of Marneuli were trained on the basics of environmental protection and 80 posters on the topic of environmental protection were placed in eight schools of the Marneuli district through the project Me and the Environment, and (5) Eight chess teams from three public schools of Marneuli participated in the chess tournament organized through the project Chess Championship.

The Association - International Society for Fair Elections and democracy (ISFED)

G08-1010

\$16,730

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/11/2008 - 6/23/2008

Education of voters is one of the compelling problems for securing fair elections in the transitional countries like Georgia. The project's activity for education of first-time voters covered Kvemo Kartli, Shida Kartli, Samtskhe-Javakheti and Ajara regions. Part of the project activities was funded by the national Endowment for Democracy. Along with a large scale public information campaign (2300 copies of the brochure "I Vote" in Georgian and Russian languages and 4000 pens with the motto "Calling to Vote") the grantee arranged 100 trainings on election-related issues for 2013 first time voters, including a large group of ethnic minorities. Of the 2013 trainees, 1924 evaluated the training as useful and 406 participants expressed willingness to be engaged in ISFED monitoring missions for the forthcoming elections. The project helped the grantee to strengthen its institutional capacity as an election watchdog. ISFED trained 10 staff members as trainers on voters' education that strengthened the grantees capacity as a training organization. The main result of the project was that trained first-time voters are less susceptible to the various methods of vote-rigging and have a higher awareness of citizenship. Therefore, the project created a resource of youth civic activists, including representatives of minorities, willing to monitor elections

The Education-Information Center - Kartli XXI

G08-0077

\$5,629

Khashuri, Georgia

6/20/2008 - 12/30/2008

The Education-Information Center - Kartli XXI has empowered and activated 60 young citizens of Khashuri District by involving them in trainings to acquire marketing job skills, out of which 58 training participants have embarked on internship programs to get practical work experience. 15 participants have been employed by various private and public organizations in Khashuri District. The training and internship programs have promoted social inclusion of the target group by offering learning programs and services that offer opportunities to people who have gained least from formal higher education

The Foundation "Liberty Institute"

C08-4003

\$15,810

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 9/29/2008

The project goal was to improve public policy making in the South Caucasus through the use of a Town Hall Meeting (THM) system, which was tested and implemented in Armenia beforehand. The project partners developed multi-language support for the computer-based elements of the system, and Armenian partners trained their Azerbaijani and Georgian counterparts on related facilitation and system implementation skills. Partners jointly implemented a pilot demonstration of the THM system in Georgia. The project was very relevant because it addresses important topics, namely inclusive and transparent decision-making on public policy issues which is a rarity in Georgia. Ordinary citizens are alienated from decision-making processes by the government elites and powerful business interest groups in Georgia. The lack of public inclusion in policy alienates citizens from political processes, thereby weakening democratic development. It makes policy making less informed and less effective.

The Union "BTKK - Policy Research Group"

G08-0004

\$26,427

Tbilisi, Georgia

3/1/2008 - 2/5/2009

A lack of specialized literature in the Georgian language in the field of international politics significantly hinders the development of original scholarship and research in Georgia. In order to fill this gap, BTKK initiated a project aimed at publishing books based on original research in the field of politics undertaken by young Georgian scholars. Four texts were published through the project: Putin's Foreign Policy, Latin America: From Populist Regimes to Liberal Democracy, Post-Soviet Society and Government in Russia, and Balance of Power or Balance of Threat?, Alignment in the South Caucasus. Over 1,000 copies of each text were provided to major universities, research institutions, and libraries. They were also delivered to ministries, the Parliament of Georgia, representatives of the government, and local and international NGOs. The texts have been incorporated into the curricula of several Georgian universities, thus making Georgian-language publications easily accessible for the students. The project contributed to the improvement of the level of research and teaching of political and security studies in Georgia.

The Union "Georgian Regional Media Association"

G08-2010

\$25,457

Tbilisi, Georgia

3/1/2008 - 6/30/2008

Public oversight of local electoral commissions and increased public awareness of the need for fair and transparent elections contribute to Georgia's democratic development. The grantee-the Georgian Regional Media Association-established a consultative group of prominent media, election and legal experts and linked them with nine popular newspapers in eight regions (Ajara, Imereti, Kakheti, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Guria, Shida Kartli, Samegrelo). Another group of eight local coordinators was established to supervise monitoring of the precinct election commissions' work on voter education, campaigns and election-day monitoring. Thanks to the local coordinators' efforts, 177 civic activists participated in the monitoring. Results of the monitoring were publicized in special newspaper inserts in seven newspapers, providing information about violations to CSOs and the public. Using their experience in the January 5, 2008 president election and the additional training provided during the project, 85 proactive community members monitored the local election administrations during the May 21, 2008 parliamentary elections. Public meetings in the regions helped to educate 118 additional civic activists about the rules of fair elections. Information about all violations was compiled in a data bank and then posted on the grantee's website (www.grma.ge), allowing a broad audience to get information about the course of the elections. The project significantly contributed to the education of voters by publishing and disseminating two types of brochures (a guide on possible methods of faking elections and a guide for citizens on election procedures) and running a hotline allowing the consultative group to provide consultations to accredited journalists. The project's informational materials and monitoring activities helped the targeted communities to vote independently and make an informed choice because they were fully informed about electoral procedures and the positions of the main political players. The project experts helped the participant newspapers to enhance knowledge and practice in coverage of election-related issues that resulted in unbiased coverage of the elections by the newspapers involved in the project.

Transparency International Georgia (TI Georgia)

G08-0025

\$9,384

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 6/30/2008

At the beginning of 2007, the government announced a new program to privatize secondary healthcare in Georgia. The program involved a complicated process of selling off existing healthcare assets, some of which would remain hospitals/clinics while others would be converted into different investments. The program, called "One Hundred New Hospitals," was started with relatively little information about the process or design, limiting opportunities for public oversight. The grantee - Transparency International Georgia - conducted in-depth participatory monitoring of the government's program, involving various interest groups in the process, including hospital staff, healthcare professionals, professional associations and the media. The grantee trained 23 journalists from different media outlets in Kakheti, Imereti, Guria, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Samegrelo, Shida Kartli, Adjara and Tbilisi, who then produced 6 high-quality articles on the healthcare reform in their

respective publications. In order to assess healthcare professionals' knowledge of the hospital privatization process, the grantee performed site visits and developed and conducted a survey of 64 medical professionals from 13 hospitals to determine awareness levels and opinions of the government's reform initiative. The grantee then conducted a roundtable discussion to deliver the preliminary results of the assessment to stakeholders. Based upon this information and the participants' comments, the grantee developed recommendations for the Ministry of Economic Development and the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection. To ensure maximum coverage of the monitoring findings, TI Georgia developed two different publications: a full report designed for state actors, NGOs and the media and a shorter version designed for the general public. In total 3,100 copies were distributed in Tbilisi and in the regions. In spite of the frequent reshuffling of ministerial leadership, the recommendations submitted to the government ultimately reached the addressee and the current healthcare minister expressed interest in the findings and recommendations. They have become the subject of discussions at the various forums.

Union "Georgian-Abkhazian Mixed Families"

G08-0031

\$11,619

Zugdidi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 6/16/2008

Building confidence and promoting tolerance among Georgians and Abkhazians is an integral component of conflict resolution. Within this project, the grantee - the Union "Georgian-Abkhaz Mixed Families" - restored relations between 196 mixed Georgian-Abkhaz families that had been separated by conflict. The grantee collaborated with the Abkhaz organization "Mixed Families" in implementing project activities. About 200 representatives of mixed families took part in eight training seminars and roundtable meetings, where participants learned about civic education, life skills, effective communication, the role of mixed families in conflict settlement, teamwork/leadership and confidence-building. The training sessions also provided participants with the opportunity to discuss issues of mutual concern, which provide a sustainable foundation for restoring relations between the two sides. In the post-grant period, an additional 300 mixed families and representatives of the Abkhaz authorities expressed an informal interest in participating in the initiative to reconnect Georgian and Abkhaz families.

Union "Public Movement Multinational Georgia"

G08-2011

\$20,028

Tbilisi, Georgia

3/1/2008 - 7/31/2008

Democratic elections rely upon an informed and engaged citizenry and proactive civic monitoring by local organizations. This is especially important in Georgia, where ethnic minorities have been manipulated in unfair elections due to language barriers and limited access to information. Within the project, which was co-funded by IFES and Cordaid, the grantee - Public Movement Multinational Georgia - monitored the parliamentary elections and the pre-election period. The grantee oversaw the election administrations in four regions of Georgia (Samtskhe-Javakheti, Shida Kartli, Kvemo Kartli and Kakheti) that are densely populated by ethnic minorities. Through local media centers in five cities, the grantee provided information to ethnic minorities during the pre-

election period, helping to increase the traditionally low voter turnout in these regions. Election day monitoring (voting, tabulation of ballots) by 250 trained observers, including for the first time representatives of ethnic minorities, resulted in several appeals about violations of the election rules filed by the observers. The grantee complemented the monitoring by providing pro-bono legal aid for election-related complaints. During the project, PMMG significantly increased its capacity and is now the third Georgian organization qualified to conduct parallel vote tabulation.

Union "Saphari"

G08-0023

\$28,256

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 2/28/2009

Domestic violence is still a problematic issue in Georgia. Discussion of the subject is taboo and official structures are poorly trained in addressing the issue. Expanding the regional network in support of victims of domestic violence and raising awareness among the public and appropriate professional actors is essential to tackling the problem. By introducing refined methods of psycho-social rehabilitation, the grantee – Sapari - significantly improved and accelerated the rehabilitation of 35 victims (26 female, 9 children) living in a designated shelter for victims of domestic violence. Additionally, the grantee provided tailored training for target groups responsible for enforcing the law on domestic violence, including police officers and social workers. The grantee filled the information gap through a proactive public awareness raising campaign on the signs of domestic violence and how victims can seek help. With this information, 312 people recognized themselves as victims of domestic violence and sought help. During the project, the grantee conducted 42 consultations in the regions and provided resources for give specialized aid on location for these people. Trainings were conducted for the local networks that support victims of domestic violence in Zugdidi, and the grantee developed a workshop for victims in Napareuli that assisted two families eliminate domestic violence in their homes. The project built off the results achieved during two previous projects by strengthening the regional network of assistance to victims and creating two new support centers in Batumi and Akhmeta. Together with other CSOs, the grantee was closely engaged in the monitoring of domestic violence problems in Georgia and elaboration of recommendations for solving the problem. The grantee contributed its long-term expertise to the civic activities for improvement of the law on curbing domestic violence and its full-scale implementation. During the project, Sapari grew organizationally and significantly improved its management. Sapari now has a solid organizational structure with a central office and regional representations that have a clear system of coordination of ongoing activities. The organization has achieved a certain level of stability through involvement in coalition projects, such as the European Commission funded project to provide access to sustainable development to juvenile detainees. The organization also participates in other coalition projects on domestic violence. Currently, Sapari is preparing an implementation action plan for the Law against Domestic Violence. Thanks to its growing authority, Sapari has become co-founder of the Georgian Association of Psycho-trauma and is working on creating a Human Rights House in Georgia in partnership with other NGOs.

Union Center for Social Science

G08-0032

\$24,977

Tbilisi, Georgia

2/1/2008 - 12/30/2008

Raising political awareness of Georgian electorate before the 2008 presidential and parliamentary elections and enhancement of professionalism of coverage of elections by the media, especially in regions was an important task in securing fair elections. The project continued and expanded the activities within the project "Citizens' Informed Choice: Media and Elections" funded by the European Commission Delegation to South Caucasus in 2007. In cooperation with the Civic Development Institute and Georgian Regional Media Association the grantee conducted a comprehensive research and analysis of the media reporting and citizens' attitudes during the elections and published two books with in-depth analysis of citizens' trust of political players and the media and a systemic analysis of the coverage of pressing issues in the Georgian media. The publications provided a wide range of stakeholders with valuable information in this field and increased understanding of citizens' perception of political situations and the performance of the media during the elections. Twenty-eight journalists from 10 target towns trained in such topics as professional coverage of the elections and political issues, then elaborated on the ethic code and pledged to follow it in their professional activity. This group of journalists from 34 regional media outlets managed to accomplish coordinated media coverage of the 2008 presidential and parliamentary elections from almost all regions of Georgia. They reported to the grantee about cases of election fraud and violations by phone and CSS posted the information on its website. Then the information was disseminated to other online media sources, including the popular website www.presa.ge. This activity helped to keep a large group of citizens, and civic organizations in Georgia and abroad be informed about the actual course of the poll and about the violations. The materials published and broadcast by the trained journalists in the pre-election period assisted large group of citizens of Georgia make informed decision at the parliamentary and presidential elections in 2008. Main results of the project include a sustainable network of the trained journalists and media organizations and analytical works about citizens' and media attitudes that serve as a civic and media resource for strengthening civil society.

Union of Blind of Georgia

G08-0037

\$13,873

Tbilisi, Georgia

6/1/2008 - 2/28/2009

In Georgia young people with disabilities are socially excluded due to social prejudices that disabled people are not capable of leading full and productive lives. This social and economic exclusion is greater for young people than for adults. To support the integration of visually impaired youth into Georgia's social and economic life and increase tolerance toward people with disabilities, the grantee organized a training program for 30 sighted and blind young people from all over Georgia. The training program covered the topics of rights of disabled people and international conventions and human rights. Several training participants were selected for internships at a potato chip factory in Tbilisi, providing them with an opportunity that allowed them to build self-esteem. The project

team published a handbook on disability rights and international conventions to increase public awareness among civil society and government representatives working on disability issues.

Women's Wellness Care Alliance HERA

G08-0081

\$2,999

Kutaisi, Georgia

8/1/2008 - 3/31/2009

Breast cancer is one of the leading causes of death among women in Georgia. Georgia has the fourth highest rate of death by breast cancer in Europe, largely because women, particularly in the regions, are not aware of the need for early detection and treatment. Through the project, 18 women in the regions of Georgia acquired skills and have built confidence to share their knowledge of early prevention and screening techniques with their peers in their communities. Seven communities increased awareness of breast cancer and screening methods. The project tied into the Annual Breast Cancer Walk organized in May 2009 in Tbilisi.

Zurab Zhvania School of Public Administration

G08-3011

\$30,400

Kutaisi, Georgia

9/1/2008 - 5/20/2009

Ethnic minority integration is an important issue for Georgia. To support the integration of national minority communities in the social, economic, and political life of the country, EPF supported the Zurab Zhvania School of Public Administration to train and provide internships in public institutions across Georgia to 56 representatives of ethnic minorities from Samtskhe-Javakheti, Kvemo Kartli, Shida Kartli, Mtskheta-Mtianeti, and the South Ossetia administrative unit. The project participants acquired important public administration and management skills during their internships in Kutaisi, Poti, and Batumi municipalities. As a result of their participation in the project training and internship program, representatives of ethnic minorities became skilled in public administration and improved their knowledge of the Georgian language, an important component of the integration process. At the end of the project, four participants had already been employed by local municipal governments within their respective regions

Kazakhstan

"Turan-Astana" University

A08-0009

\$15,000

Astana, Kazakhstan

6/2/2008 - 12/2/2008

The project aims to deepen relevant experience with information between the Department of Tourism and the service department through the establishment of a University Research Center of Ecotourism. The project made recommendations to improve the quality of ecotourism services and products and created an Information and Research Center on Ecotourism. As a result, the students and teachers in the Department of Tourism and the service department expanded their access to information on ecotourism business. The center also increased students' interest in the topic of ecotourism and their knowledge of the Kazakh market of ecotourism (11 students wrote their thesis on "Eco-tourism").

Almaty Public Foundation of Blind People Society

A07-0052

\$5,000

Almaty, Kazakhstan

9/27/2007 - 11/27/2008

The goal of the project was to address the low level of social activity among the visually impaired and to involve them in community life. Courses were conducted for 41 students in Braille and computer literacy for 86 blind people. A round table was held to draw the attention of society towards the problem of the disabled. An assessment of the project's influence was carried out by specialists from Zhalgas Counterpart. As a result of the round table discussions a resolution was signed by the Department of Health and Social Protection, with the goal of informing the visually impaired through the Kazakh Society for the Blind.

Eurasian National University named after L. N. Gumilev

A07-0013

\$35,589

Astana, Kazakhstan

2/1/2007 - 3/31/2009

The program seeks to address the lack of highly qualified specialists in environment management and engineering sphere in Kazakhstan. Specialists are needed to resolve companies and government's biggest environmental problems in terms of industry and state regulations. The program goal is to establish a master's program in environmental management and engineering, focused on water and air pollution and meeting international standards, and to help fill the demand of governmental agencies, local corporations and NGOs for qualified professionals.

Public Association Center for Initiative Support

A07-0011

\$15,000

Shymkent, Kazakhstan

12/13/2007 - 12/13/2008

To socialize children deprived of parental care through spiritual and moral education provided by the family, and involving children in social life; development and adoption of social orphanage prevention measures. Throughout the project implementation, trained teachers and social workers

conducted seminars for 218 colleagues; 17 members of youth center "Shymkent-Plus" demonstrated positive behavior change; the Center assisted the Regional Department of Education in developing recommendations for adoption of the government program "Children of South-Kazakhstan Oblast 2007-2011."

Public Association Center for the Social Adaptation of Children

A07-0007

\$15,000

Astana, Kazakhstan

12/13/2007 - 12/13/2008

To address the increasing number of children deprived of parental care and placed in orphanages. The government does not have effective mechanisms to address this problem. Children who grow up in institutions lack sufficient life skills to successfully adapt to societies; it leads to an increase in the number of at-risk families and social orphanage. Purpose of the program is to adopt a program for social and psychological assistance of foster families and families in difficult life situations in order to prevent social orphanage and reduce the number of children growing up in institutions. The Center's program was revised based on a situational analysis, major needs and working directions identified. The Center works with the Committee of Children's Rights Protection on developing the standards of services for children deprived of parental care; standards are included in a new law on social services. As a result of the program 10 children deprived of parental care were placed with foster families.

Public Association Women's Club "Tomiris"

A07-0010

\$15,000

Pavlodar, Kazakhstan

12/13/2007 - 12/13/2008

To assist the local government in developing alternative methods of orphan care. Through the project a school for foster parents was held for 23 parents; 20 children were placed in weekend foster families (funded by the Regional Department of Labor and Social Protection); and 34 foster children (including those enrolled in the government foster parenting program) were involved in personal development activities. In the framework of the government social orphanage prevention program, 22 women and six teenage girls received psychological assistance; as part of a socio-psychological experiment conducted in school #2, twelve children from at-risk families received psychological assistance; and the programs assisted orphans in adaptation upon graduation. As a result, 15 of 22 women who planned to place their newborns in institutions decided to keep the children; 7 orphan graduates were placed in education institutions; and 12 socio-psychological experiment participants demonstrated positive behavior change. The organization participates in development of the government program "Social Orphanage Prevention 2009-2011."

Public Foundation "Ak zhunis"

A07-0086

\$5,700

Esik, Kazakhstan

12/13/2007 - 8/7/2008

A 2007 study showed that one in six women in the region where the grantee works is sexually assaulted or exploited, and is in need of information and psychological support. With the goal to

decrease violence against women and children, the grantee undertook information awareness campaigns discouraging violence against women and children; and provided legal and psychological support to potential and existing victims of violence. As a result, 15 women volunteers received training and regularly conducted informative awareness campaigns about violence against women; development and distribution of booklets, leaflets, and bookmarks on the rights of women and children; 49 telephone consultations to victims of violence. Of these, 90% were related to domestic violence. Notably, two court cases were brought up and won: a case involving protection of mother and child rights and a court case involving protection of a teenage girl.

Public Foundation "Perekrestok"

A07-0009

\$15,000

Kostanay, Kazakhstan

12/13/2007 - 12/13/2008

To assist the local government in developing alternative methods of orphan care. An information campaign aiming at popularizing family forms of orphan care was organized; government agencies were assisted in placing orphans in family based care; training potential foster parents, preparing children to be placed in foster families, and monitoring and consulting foster families. 83 specialists who work with orphans were trained in methodologies of socialization and adaptation of children deprived of parental care and working with foster and at-risk families. Psychological and legal assistance was provided to 123 foster families and 4 families in difficult life situations, and assistance in socialization and rehabilitation was provided to 37 children deprived of parental care who live in institutions. As a result relationships with media were established and 30 positive articles covering orphans' issues were published; partnerships with the regional Committee of Children's Right Protection were established to share information and methodologies and to implement common strategies for the benefit of children; 3 children were placed in foster families, and one child was adopted by foster parents. The Centre "Way to Home" extended its services to social orphanage prevention: 20 children participate in social orphanage prevention initiative.

Public Foundation Our Heritage

A07-0078

\$34,177

Almaty, Kazakhstan

12/11/2007 - 6/11/2008:

Artisans in Kazakhstan lack the skills they need to manage their businesses effectively (SANGE assessment, 2006). Objectives of this program are to develop the business management skills of artisans from East Kazakhstan oblast, Akmola oblast, South Kazakhstan oblast, West Kazakhstan oblast and Mangystau oblast. Five business management training events were organized for 101 artisans in East Kazakhstan oblast, Akmola oblast, South Kazakhstan oblast, Aktobe oblast and Mangystau oblast. As a result 101 artisans improved their business management skills, and cooperation in craft development was established with six organizations from Mangystau oblast, Aktobe oblast and East Kazakhstan oblast.

Sodbi Business Incubator

A07-0080

\$10,720

Shymkent, Kazakhstan

12/11/2007 - 6/11/2008

Artisans in Kazakhstan lack the necessary skills to manage business (SANGE assessment, 2006). Objective of this program is to develop the business management skills of artisans from South Kazakhstan oblast and Mangystau oblast. A business skills training program was created for artisans, in the Kazakh language and two business management training events were organized for 41 artisans in South Kazakhstan oblast and Mangystau oblast.

Women's Union of the Ural Region "Umit"

A07-0008

\$14,440

Uralsk, Kazakhstan

12/13/2007 - 12/13/2008

The number of children deprived of parental care and placed in orphanages increases every year and the government does not have effective mechanisms to address the problem. Children who grow up in institutions lack sufficient life skills to successfully adapt to societies; it leads to an increase in the number of at-risk families and social orphanage. Purpose of this program is to assist the government in implementing the deinstitutionalization policy in West-Kazakhstan oblast. 26 children deprived of parental care were prepared for placement in 14 foster families and regular assistant and monitoring was provided to the families. 23 orphans were trained in using personal computers and crafts. 4 round tables were organized to discuss the questions of developing the alternative ways of parental care and 130 children from "Zhas Dauren" and 90 students from professional high school #4 participated in legal training. As a result of the program 26 children were placed with foster families, 15 children deprived of parental care found their parents and relatives, and 9 of 24 at-risk families decided not to place their children in institutions as a result of psychological, social and legal assistance. The community board is regularly operating, involving representatives of the government, civil society, mass media and experts in solving problems of children deprived of parental care.

Zubr - Consulting Center

A07-0081

\$12,534

Ust-Kamenogorsk, Kazakhstan

12/11/2007 - 5/8/2008

Artisans in Kazakhstan lack the skills they need to manage their businesses effectively (SANGE assessment, 2006). This program strives to develop the business management skills of artisans from East Kazakhstan oblast, Akmola oblast and West Kazakhstan oblast. An assessment of artisans' need for business management skills was conducted, and a training program developed. Three business management training events were organized for 60 artisans in East Kazakhstan oblast, Akmola oblast and Aktobe oblast resulting in improved business management skills.

Development Fund of Education

A04-0089

\$38,496

Uralsk, Kazakhstan

2/14/2005 - 12/31/2006

To provide the WKO farmers with quality agro-consulting services and to increase the capacity of the higher education institutions of the West Kazakhstan region by introducing new technologies in remote rural areas. The project oversaw the development and publishing of a series of resource materials containing agricultural business information, involved WKATU students in research work and farmers in innovative technology conferences and seminars, and aided in developing partnerships with SSAU and other foreign universities. In the area of cattle breeding, 80% of female livestock were artificially inseminated, cattle vaccinated and an improved mix of animal feed introduced. Individual larger scale farms increased productivity by 10-15% for different crops and reduced production costs fell by 10-18%. Companies were able to access potential clients

Kyrgyzstan

Public Association Bishkek Women's Center

H07-0050

\$3,858

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

6/1/2007 - 6/26/2008

In Kyrgyzstan public services are generally of a low quality and require monitoring by the community in order to improve them. Goal of this program is to improve the quality of public services through monitoring. Five groups were created for controlling public services and training sessions were conducted for civil activists and members of 15 NGOs. The Union of Proactive Citizens was formed as a means for controlling the quality of public services. Following discussions with public service organizations an agreement was reached that members of monitoring groups can give suggestions on improving the quality of public services, participate in inspections and carry out other measures aimed at increasing the effectiveness and accessibility of services.

Alliance of Patients Right Defenders

H07-0048

\$3,601

Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

6/1/2007 - 1/31/2008

To give PWD the access to privileged medical services. The project entailed gathering and processing information from the law on PWD rights and using this information to produce 1,000 copies of a pocket reference book and 1,000 posters "PWD Rights." PWD were informed of the project and its results via mass media, press conferences, NGO roundtables, and representatives for the disabled. The project also provided legal consultations for 23 PWDs about their rights, and distributed the reference book "PWD Rights" among PWD and medical staff. Additionally a survey was conducted among 173 PWD and 38 medical professionals with the purpose of assessing the level of their awareness about rights of PWD before and after the project. Three articles were published on the Internet (AkiPress ,www.kloop.kg, www.stan.kg), and one TV program about the project was produced. In Alamudun and Sokuluk districts of Chu Oblast the level of awareness of PWD rights among PWD and medical professional increased by 44% and 10% correspondingly; the range of medical services for PWD increased by 23%, the number of PWD who have received referrals to treatment in health resorts increased by 17.3%, the number of PWDs who apply to medical institutions increased by 32% (271 PWD before the project and 359 after the project), the number of medical prescriptions given to PWD on special terms increased by 30% (from 196 to 255).

Non-Profit Organization Kirgizia - Ural Foundation

H06-0156

\$10,453

Ekaterinburg, Russian Federation

2/7/2007 - 10/31/2007

In order to facilitate the legalization of labor migrants in the Russian Federation it is essential that government structures, legal organizations, businesses and the non-governmental sector work together. The objective of the project was to facilitate the legalization of labor migrants from

different Central Asian countries in the Russian Federation. As part of the project, an Information and Consultation Centre for Labor Migrants was set up in Yekaterinburg. 2 roundtables on labor migration were held on a regional level and within the framework of the project 1,012 labor migrants received consultations and assistance with the process of legalization. Moreover, a database of job vacancies in Sverdlovsk Oblast was compiled. As a result of the project, 689 labor migrants found jobs and 15 agreements of cooperation with local businesses of Sverdlovsk were signed.

Children Support Foundation "Aitana"

H06-0092

\$3,590

Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

6/6/2006 - 2/29/2008

To assist in the social integration of abandoned teenagers with drug addiction problems in Bishkek. According to UNICEF there are more than 5,000 abandoned youths in Kyrgyzstan, and many of them are homeless and addicted to drugs. To promote a healthy way of life, a Youth Club was established, and abandoned youths were recruited to work at it. Twenty-three teenagers completed a drug rehabilitation program; including consultation sessions with their parents and a doctor, a lawyer and a psychologist were organized. The teenagers, who completed the drug rehabilitation program conducted five one-day seminars in orphanages, settlements and schools in order to involve the children in the Youth Club's activities and encourage them to live healthy lives. A short film "We Are Kyrgyzstan Citizens" was made about abandoned teenagers on the street and aired on channel KTR. Within the framework of the program 250 booklets were issued and distributed, and a roundtable was held between NGO and government representatives. Twenty teenagers were successfully rehabilitated and sixty street children have become active members of the Youth Club. A football team was formed from rehabilitated teenagers and abandoned children with continuing drug problems. As a result of the roundtable, NGO and government representatives concluded an agreement with the purpose to help abandoned teenagers.

Public Foundation Phenomenon

H07-0044

\$3,623

Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

6/1/2007 - 5/31/2008

Blind and partially blind people need access to audio books when enrolling and studying at college. The Regional Specialized Library for Blind and Deaf has little fiction and no books on jurisprudence, economics, politics, sociology, ethnography, and other disciplines. The project hopes to provide more opportunities for blind and partially blind people to receive high-quality education and employment. The project conducted a survey among young blind and partially blind people to identify which audio books are needed most. Audio books were digitized at the Regional Specialized Library for Blind and Partially Blind and new fiction and science books were recorded and digitized. Blind and visually impaired people were trained to use computers, dictaphones, etc. Opportunities for visually impaired people to listen to and record audio and digitized books were provided. The project provided consultations to visually impaired people about employment and informal meetings with employers to help visually impaired people find employment. The program resulted in 46 blind and partially blind people now have greater access to education because they can use technology

effectively and relevant study materials are now available. Seven program participants are enrolled in the Medical College at Kyrgyz State Medical Academy, specializing in nursing and massage and eight other program participants entered other universities in Bishkek.

Union of Young Leaders and Patriots of Naryn "Jash-Danaker"

H07-0046

\$3,962

Naryn, Kyrgyz Republic

5/30/2007 - 11/30/2007

To promote the expansion of economic possibilities for youth. The absence, among leaders of youth associations and cooperatives, of basic knowledge concerning the legal principles of property rights and land regulation, price formation, product turnover, human resource accounting, and management. The project organized a meeting between leaders of youth cooperatives and representatives of Kyrgyz banks. The goal of the meeting was to familiarize the young leaders with conditions for the issuing of credit and to advise them on how to write business plans. A roundtable discussion was held, during which the possibilities for the support of youth cooperatives by financial institutions as well as by the Naryn provincial government were discussed. Training sessions on "The Expansion of Personal Business" and "Land Law and Taxation" were conducted for six youth cooperatives in the city of Naryn, eleven youth cooperatives in the village of Kochkor, and five youth cooperatives in the Aktalinsky region. Using what they learned at the training sessions, the youth cooperatives' representatives developed business proposals in areas such as raising animals, bathhouse construction, retail stores, carpentry, agricultural cultivation, resources centers, and poultry farming. 41 pilot cooperatives in the Naryn oblast were launched and 5 well-developed business proposals received credit, for a total sum of 2,255,000 Kyrgyz soms.

Moldova

AO Apa Codrilor

Z08-0021

\$4,011

Republic of Moldova

9/15/2008 - 4/10/2009

To address the civic passivity and reduced participation in the elections of citizens from Vatici and surrounding villages. The grantee carried out a comprehensive civic and voter education campaign in the respective communities. For the 2009 parliamentary elections the grantee conducted seminars and a public information campaign by disseminating flyers and posters, publishing articles in the local newspapers and reaching out to over 4000 citizens with information about their right to vote. The project provided relevant information and assistance to citizens in view of understanding the importance of voting and making an informed choice during the 2009 parliamentary elections.

AO Pro Lex

Z08-0063

\$2,980

Leova city, Republic of Moldova

3/9/2009 - 5/9/2009

To increase youth participation in electoral process. The grantee succeeded in training 69 first-time voters, conducting a voter education event attended by 500 young people and disseminating voter education materials. The project helped young voters better understand the importance of participating in elections and make an informed choice during the 2009 parliamentary elections in Moldova.

Association for Cooperation and Democratic Communication "Dialog"

Z07-0057

\$13,210

Cahul, Moldova

4/30/2008 - 6/30/2009

To increase Moldovan citizen's awareness and understanding of EU institutions. The grantee continued to run the European Interactive Center in Cahul, the main source of information about EU and related process in the southern part of the country. Over 3,000 people benefited from center's services, events and resources, including the library, informational bus campaign, radio debates, Europe Day celebration and others. In addition, more than 350 individuals (students, public officials, NGO leaders, businesspeople and teachers) received training on EU integration issues. The project helped citizens better understand the importance of voting and make an informed choice in Moldova's 2009 parliamentary elections.

Association of Citizens with Initiative

Z08-0033

\$5,217

Cantemir, Republic of Moldova

10/1/2008 - 5/31/2009

To increase youth participation in the electoral process. The Association of Citizens with Initiative trained a core group of 20 youth leaders who conducted a voter information campaign in four targeted villages and Cantemir town. The grantee also published the flyer "Make Your Choice",

organized two voter education events and conducted a door-to-door campaign. The project helped citizens to better understand the importance of voting and make an informed choice during the 2009 parliamentary elections in Moldova.

Association of Economic Journalists

Z08-0044

\$6,878

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

9/15/2008 - 4/15/2009

To increase youth participation in the electoral process. The grantee organized a voter education campaign targeting voters residing abroad by producing and distributing information about the political parties participating in the elections. In partnership with the Central Election Commission the project helped ensure that Moldovan migrants have access to information about the election and the opportunity to vote.

Association of Electronic Press - APEL

Z09-0009

\$12,633

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

7/8/2009 - 9/7/2009

To reduce bias in media coverage of national elections. The Association of Electronic Press (APEL) conducted an independent media monitoring campaign. Using comprehensive methodology, the grantee monitored nine TV stations during the election campaign and the post-electoral period. APEL posted 13 case studies on its website reflecting the most serious violations of the country's broadcasting law during the elections. APEL also produced and widely disseminated four periodical reports with recommendations on how to promote balanced media coverage of the elections.

Association of Independent Press

Z08-0083

\$11,410

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

12/22/2008 - 5/5/2009

To investigate allegations of biased coverage during the 2009 parliamentary elections the Association of Independent Press, in partnership with other organizations, monitored 16 media outlets during the electoral period. The grantee monitored results and relevant recommendations for regulatory bodies that were widely disseminated in seven periodic reports. The monitoring effort proved that the situation in the area of media coverage of the electoral process will not change unless a proper environment for the media is created.

Association of Parents and Teachers from Drepcauti Village

Z08-0071

\$2,880

Briceni rayon, Republic of Moldova

12/10/2008 - 1/31/2009

To repair damage to Drepcauti's local school, caused by the Moldovan flood of 2008. Torrential rains and the ensuing floods in the summer of 2008 considerably damaged the village school, including classrooms, hallways and the cafeteria. The grantee reconstructed the cafeteria, which serves the school's 274 children, in addition to school employees. The cafeteria was also outfitted with new tables and chairs.

Association of Parents to Teachers from Trifauti village

Z08-0076

\$3,000

Soroca rayon, Republic of Moldova

12/10/2008 - 2/15/2009

To repair flood-damage to Trifauti's local high school. Students were falling ill and had to be moved to a high school in a neighboring village due to their school's rundown infrastructure, leaving the school with just 113 students. The grantee reconstructed the high school's infrastructure, making it a safe and healthy environment for current students and allowing former students to resume their studies there.

Basarabeasca Women City Club "Golubka"

Z08-0048

\$6,546

Basarabeasca, Republic of Moldova

9/15/2008 - 4/18/2009

To address the civic passivity and reduced participation of young people from Basarabeasca rayon in the elections. The Basarabeasca Women's City Club "Golubka" engaged in a comprehensive civic and voter education campaign. For the upcoming Parliamentary Elections in 2009, the grantee conducted theatre performances, seminars and broadcast civic education programs at the local TV station. The project helped develop critical thinking and analytical skills among young voters, reaching out to more than 2,000 citizens from this district.

Center for Analysis and Prevention of Corruption

Z08-0082

\$24,129

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

12/22/2008 - 7/7/2009

To help citizens exercise their electoral rights. The grantee provided free legal assistance on electoral matters, services advertised via TV and radio stations, national newspapers and posters. The grantee provided free legal advice to 503 citizens, including NGO representatives and journalists. The project helped citizens to exercise their electoral rights and highlighted a number of issues related due for redress by electoral administration bodies in future elections.

Cerere si Oferta Newspaper

Z08-0040

\$6,966

Balti, Republic of Moldova

9/15/2008 - 5/15/2009

To provide Moldovan citizens unbiased media coverage of national elections. The grantee published and distributed 20 issues of the bi-weekly civic education inserts "Free Microphone" in its circulation for the Northern part of the country, with a circulation of 20,000 copies. Publishing information about electoral contestants and their platforms, independent experts' opinions about the electoral process and articles about the importance of voting, the grantee succeeded in promoting access to unbiased electoral information on the candidates and stimulating citizens' engagement in the electoral process.

Congaz Center of Civic Initiatives

Z08-0038

\$3,239

Congaz village, Republic of Moldova

11/1/2008 - 4/10/2009

To increase youth participation in the electoral process. The grantee established a network of young volunteers and trained them on methods of conducting voter education campaigns. More than 1,500 citizens were encouraged to vote in a door-to-door campaign and thematic events for young people. As a result of the grantee's approach, the general voter turnout in Congaz village increased about two percent compared to previous parliamentary elections.

Crio-Inform NGO

Z08-0077

\$3,000

Briceni rayon, Republic of Moldova

12/10/2008 - 5/15/2009

To repair public infrastructure damaged by flood of 2008. The grantee reconstructed a strategic roadway that connects the village to the neighboring forests and crops. The crops are a major source of village sustainability, making the reconstruction of the road vital to the lives of locals.

Curier-Prosper AO

Z08-0073

\$3,000

Lipcani, Republic of Moldova

12/10/2008 - 1/31/2009

To rebuild Lipcani's public infrastructure post flood 2008. Lipcani is a border town in the Bessarabia region in the eastern part of Moldova. Lipcani's infrastructure was seriously damaged by torrential rains and the ensuing floods in the summer of 2008. The town's peripheral zone was most badly hit, wiping out portions of roads, buildings and private crops, in addition to the town's Children's Art Center. The grantee restored the center, which now stands as a modern, well-equipped facility serving children cultivating their artistic abilities. The project received additional funding from the office of the town mayor.

DECA-Press

Z07-0005

\$14,415

Balti, Republic of Moldova

6/19/2007 - 7/31/2008

To expand on the insufficient coverage of corruption issues in local mass media, that are lacking throughout the country but particularly in Balti. To address this issue, DECA Press organized 22 meetings of the Balti Press Club with participation of 27 journalists, 24 public servants and 19 CSOs representatives. As a result of project activities 70 investigative articles including information of public interest were published in the media from Balti and the northern part of the country. The grantee has also stimulated the interest of journalists in writing on corruption cases by conducting specialized trainings. The project has led to Press Club meetings becoming important venues of information gathering for journalists in the region. This approach raised public awareness about the need for more transparency in administration of public affairs, corruption cases and European integration issues.

Expert-Grup

Z06-0006

\$36,997

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

4/20/2007 - 4/20/2008

To increase civil society participation in the implementation of key reforms in Moldova. The grantee brought together 15 leading NGOs, think-tanks and academics in a Consortium for National Development to produce a report evaluating the government's implementation of the Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (EGPRSP) and the EU-Moldova Action Plan entitled State of the Nation Report 2007. The Consortium carried out a comprehensive and multi-sector analysis, collected valuable data via surveys, conducting a media campaign and organized national and regional round-tables and presentations. Additionally, project staff provided independent expertise to the government on the development of the first-ever National Development Plan.

Freedom of Expression and Access to Information Promotion Center "Access-info"

Z07-0008

\$45,972

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

11/6/2007 - 10/30/2008

To expand institutional transparency and accountability of public officials in Moldova by strengthening civic oversight over state institutions. To address these issues, the Freedom of Expression and Access to Information Promotion Center, "Access-info", monitored the right to access to information by submitting 4,839 public information inquiries to various state institutions. The monitoring report was widely disseminated to central and local public administrations, mass-media, NGOs, international institutions and the donor community. The grantee has contributed to improving the institutional transparency and accountability of public authorities by elaborating more than 170 recommendations, from which 90 were taken into consideration by public authorities. The main achievement is the adoption of a law on decisional transparency which was developed and actively promoted by the grantee.

Independent Daily "TIMPUL de Dimineata"

Z08-0069

\$14,998

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

10/27/2008 - 3/20/2009

To increase Moldovan citizen's awareness and understanding of EU institutions. The project "European Integration, Step by Step" pursued the goal of getting the public acquainted with information that would help to answer the questions "What is the European Union and the Republic of Moldova doing to advance the integration process?" by publishing a bi-monthly supplement to the Timpul newspaper, which was also posted on their daily website. The grantee developed, produced, printed and distributed eight newspaper inserts covering a diverse range of viewpoints on EU-Moldova relations, as well as contests for readers focused on EU integration. The grantee contributed to encouraging a lively public debate around Moldova's European integration process.

This project was co-funded by Sida and USAID.

Independent Journalism Center

Z06-0017

\$45,524

Chisinau, Moldova

12/22/2008 - 6/22/2009

To expand institutional transparency and accountability of public officials in Moldova by strengthening civic oversight over state institutions. To address this problem the grantee conducted a thorough analysis of media financing and government placed advertisement practices. The study covered eight newspapers and involved 96 public institutions. Based on research findings, the grantee proposed amendments to legislation on relations between government and media. The Independent Journalism Center also raised public awareness about the need for transparent and equal access of all media to public funding. The Government placed advertisements seeking to advocate for legislative changes through the "Mass Media in Moldova" magazine and public events with participation of concerned stakeholders.

League for Defense of Consumers Rights in Moldova

Z07-0036

\$19,893

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

11/1/2007 - 8/31/2008

To increase the awareness and access to consumer rights and justice. The grantee conducted an information campaign by editing and distributing 19 issues of a newspaper, with a circulation of 60,000 copies. For the first time three comprehensive monitoring reports on protection of consumer rights were developed and disseminated. The grantee developed and submitted 10 emergency measures to be enforced by the government to improve consumer rights protection. The major project achievement was the government's creation of a separate unit within the Ministry of Economy dealing with consumer rights protection. This will improve considerably the involvement of the state in this area, and citizens will have more opportunity to effectively protect their rights as consumers.

League for the Defence of Human Rights in Republic Moldova

Z08-0002

\$19,248

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

2/22/2008 - 6/20/2008

To address possible fraud in the 2008 Popular Assembly Elections in Gagauzia. The grantee conducted a comprehensive long term election observation campaign. Within the campaign, the League for Defence of Human Rights of Moldova (LADOM) developed periodical reports on the administration on the election during the pre-electoral, election-day and the post-electoral periods and distributed them to citizens, electoral actors and an internal audience. The grantee also recruited, trained and mobilized 125 short term election observers (STOs) for all polling stations in Gagauzia and conducted a quick tally of votes. The project contributed to a deterrence of electoral fraud and to the legitimization of the election in the eyes of all major stakeholders. Another achievement was the further consolidation of LADOM, as a leading civil organization in Moldova, working in the area of promoting free and fair elections.

League for the Defence of Human Rights in Republic of Moldova, LADOM

Z08-0052

\$75,245

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

11/25/2008 - 8/3/2009

To address possible fraud during the 2009 Parliamentary Elections. The League for Defense of Human Rights of Moldova (LADOM) conducted a comprehensive long term, domestic election observation campaign. Through a network of 37 experienced long-term observers and 2,000 recruited and trained short-term observers, the grantee developed periodic reports on the administration of the elections during the pre-electoral period, Election Day and the post-election, then distributed them to media, electoral actors, the Central Election Commission and relevant international institutions. Ultimately, the grantee conducted a quick count and a parallel tabulation of votes. The project contributed to identification of legal and organizational gaps in the election and formulated recommendations to improve the administration of the electoral process.

National Center for Transparency and Human Rights

Z07-0016

\$21,448

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

11/1/2007 - 8/31/2008

To address widespread corruption at Moldovan academic institutions. To address this issue the grantee developed and tested methodology to monitor universities, identify vulnerability to corrupt practice, recommend changes and advocate for a more transparent, efficient and less corrupt administration of universities. The grantee conducted six focus groups with students from two universities, multiple interviews with administrations of the targeted universities and a survey reflecting the perceptions of students and teachers on corruption in higher education institutions. A policy guidebook for monitoring corruption and fraud in universities was developed and disseminated among higher education institutions in Moldova.

National Youth Council of Moldova

Z08-0057

\$10,000

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

11/25/2008 - 6/15/2009

To increase youth participation in the electoral process. To address this issue, the National Youth Council of Moldova, in partnership with other NGOs, conducted a nationwide get-out-the-vote campaign, including trainings and workshops, a door-to-door information campaign, and distributed nationwide promotional materials encouraging people to vote. The project helped raise awareness about the importance of voting on the April 5, 2009 parliamentary elections and reached out to more than 78,000 citizens.

NGO "OZON"

Z08-0028

\$6,648

Balti, Republic of Moldova

9/15/2008 - 4/15/2009

To increase youth participation in the electoral process. The grantee recently conducted a comprehensive voter mobilization campaign targeting students from Balti State University. It produced, distributed and posted voter mobilization materials, conducted regular debates with students on democracy and civic participation and published articles in the local media. The project helped students to become more knowledgeable about democratic processes and more engaged in elections.

NGO Institute for Democracy in Comrat

Z07-0013

\$14,454

Comrat, Republic of Moldova

11/5/2007 - 11/14/2008

To address widespread corruption at Moldovan academic institutions. To address this issue, the grantee organized a series of education and outreach initiatives to inform teachers and students about the negative consequences of corruption and encourage them to report such misconduct. The grantee also developed an optional anticorruption curriculum, thus promoting anticorruption education for students and decreasing corruption at Comrat State University (CSU). Based on the results of opinion polls among teachers and students who took the course, the level of knowledge about corruption at CSU increased from 49% to 72%. The successful implementation of the course at CSU encouraged Balti and Taraclia State Universities to use the grantee's experience and to start working on similar curricula.

Partnership for Development Center

Z08-0055

\$10,696

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

12/22/08 - 8/28/09

To increase female participation in Moldovan political life. The grantee, in cooperation with other NGOs, developed and promoted a gender equality code of conduct for political parties and the media during the 2009 Moldovan parliamentary elections. Additionally, the grantee monitored the parliamentary elections, including media coverage, from a gender perspective and produced reports on gender balance in the party lists. The grantee succeeded in raising the issue at all levels, identifying and articulating further challenges and prospects for achieving gender equality in the electoral arena.

Public Organization NISTRU BANKS

Z08-0024

\$4,446

Molovata Noua village, Dubasari rayon, Republic of Moldova

10/1/08 - 3/28/09

To promote the inclusion and participation in Moldovan national politics of the country's breakaway region. The grantee engaged in a comprehensive voter education campaign. The grantee trained over 200 citizens from 5 villages and distributed voter education materials, thus raising the civic consciousness of people with the right to vote in the region.

Regional Centre for NGOs Assistance and Information CONTACT - Balti

Z08-0001

\$14,388

Balti, Moldova

4/30/2008 - 6/30/2009

To increase Moldovan citizen's awareness and understanding of EU institutions. To address this issue, the grantee continued to run the European Interactive Center in Balti, which is one of the main sources of information about the EU and its relations with Moldova covering the northern part of the country. During the project period over 550 people benefited directly from the center's services and resources, including the library, training programs, informational campaigns, public presentations and TV and radio debates. Around 360 individuals comprising students, public officials, journalists, NGO leaders, businesspeople and teachers received training on EU integration issues. Thus, the project made a significant contribution to the local community's understanding of European affairs.

AO PROMO-LEX

Z08-0086

\$14,941

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

3/6/2009 - 6/5/2009

For the last 17 years the overwhelming majority of voters residing in Transnistrian breakaway region could not participate in Moldovan parliamentary elections due to restrictive actions taken by unrecognized Transnistrian authorities. In order to help Moldovan citizens participate in elections, Promo-Lex conducted for the first time a comprehensive monitoring of the April 5 2009 election campaign in all Transnistrian districts. The grantee trained 10 long term elections observers who collected data on the behavior of electoral contestants, media, unrecognized Transnistrian authorities, local NGOs and official electoral bodies during the electoral period. Promo-Lex produced and largely disseminated 4 monitoring reports, which identified the structural barriers discouraging access to voting for the residents of Transnistrian region and formulated corresponding recommendations. The project contributed to increased confidence of Moldovan voters residing in Transnistria in democratic election processes and prepared the ground for better participation in future elections.

Committee for Freedom of Press

Z08-0067

\$14,000

Chisinau, Republic of Moldova

12/22/2008 - 6/12/2009

To address the lack of enabling environment for media development in Moldova that causes biased coverage of electoral contestants during electoral campaigns. As a consequence, Moldovan citizens are deprived of access to balanced information on electoral processes and political landscape. To address these issues the Committee for Freedom of Press engaged in a comprehensive civic and voter information campaign. For the parliamentary elections held on April 5, 2009 the grantee produced 18 voter education radio shows, which were broadcast by six local radio stations, with a cumulative coverage of 70% of the country. The grantee also published online the synopses of produced radio shows and analytical materials. The project contributed to raising public awareness

about democratic participation and voters' rights, encouraging people to make an informed choice during the April 5, 2009 parliamentary elections.

Independent Journalism Center

Z08-0056

\$45,524

Chisinau, Moldova

12/22/2008 - 6/22/2009

To eliminate bias in public and private TV and radio in their coverage of the 2005 parliamentary and 2007 local general elections. To avoid allegations regarding media coverage during the 2009 parliamentary elections the Independent Journalism Center conducted independent media monitoring for the 2009 elections. Using the methodology developed by "Article 19" international NGO, the grantee monitored 8 electronic media outlets during the electoral period and 7 TV stations during the post-electoral period. The monitoring results and relevant recommendations for regulatory bodies were widely disseminated through 8 periodic reports. The monitoring effort proved that the situation in the area of media coverage of the electoral process still remains problematic. According to the grantee's experts, the situation will change when a proper environment for the media is created, that is, an adequate institutional framework enabling the media to present a diversity of viewpoints to cover political and democratic processes in a balanced and professional manner, and to generally seek and disseminate information in the public interest.

Regional Development Agency "Habitat"

Z07-0010

\$15,062

Or. Rezina, Republic of Moldova

6/19/2007 - 6/19/2008

To expand institutional transparency and accountability of public officials in Moldova by strengthening civic oversight over state institutions. To address this issue, the grantee organized a vast information and education campaign by conducting five seminars with over 100 participants, including representatives of Local Public Administrations and representatives of the state Anti-Corruption Center (CCCEC). The organization also created seven civic councils, aimed at monitoring the governance process at the local level and conducted 12 public hearings in villages from these districts. The project increased awareness of the dangers of corruption among citizens and equipped communities with tools to effectively monitor local governance and hold accountable civil servants who violate the law.

Vadul Nistrului AO

Z08-0072

\$2,960

Anenii Noi rayon, Republic of Moldova

12/10/08 - 1/31/09

To repair public infrastructure damaged by flood of 2008. Torrential rains and the ensuing floods in the summer of 2008 considerably damaged the village's plumbing system, leaving villagers without access to running water. The grantee overhauled the plumbing system of the local school, the local kindergarten and adjacent households. The grantee also restored villagers' access to clean running water.

Women Association "Modern Woman"

Z07-0015

\$14,598

Orhei, Republic of Moldova

6/19/2007 - 3/15/2008

To address widespread corruption at Moldovan academic institutions. To address these issues, the grantee organized a comprehensive information and education campaign involving more than 1,000 pupils, teachers and parents and provided free legal advice to more than 400 people affected by corruption. One major achievement of the project is the district council adopted a bill forbidding school administrations and teachers to collect cash from parents and pupils for school needs. By promoting this bill, the grantee increased the level of transparency and accountability of schools in managing extra-funds they collect.

Russian Federation

Center for Territorial Development

M06-0008

\$49,985

Poselok Nadvoitsy, Segezhsy Raion, Russia

8/20/2006 - 11/30/2007

The project resulted in the establishment of the Territorial Development Centre in the settlement of Nadvoitsy and its consulting subsidiary in the city of Segezha. The New Eurasia Foundation, in partnership with SUAL-Holding and the US Agency for International Development (USAID), provided the newly established organization with financial, organizational, and methodological support required to launch its independent operation. The Centre was the first organization in the district to consolidate the local community and mobilize its resources to address relevant socio-economic problems. The staff of the newly established Centre underwent training and internships with small business support institutions operating in the Northwestern region of the Russian Federation. The Centre provides information and office support services to local small businesses and noncommercial organizations. Entrepreneurs have been provided with access to Internet resources and a business library. They are also provided with consultations on how to design business plans, keep books, pay taxes, stay compliant with law, and participate in municipal bidding. Finally, the Centre has also a micro-lending program for small businesses.

Foundation "Independent Press Center"

M07-0065

\$50,000

Moscow, Russia

12/10/2007 - 9/29/2008

The following events have been conducted during the life of the project: - 235 events, among them: 32 round tables; 30 presentations; 12 seminars for journalists; 3 public discussions and other public events, totaling approximately 7-8 events per week. The average amount of each event participants is 40-50 people. Some institutional support for the Grantee has also been provided.

Foundation for Local Self-Government Development

M07-0042

\$20,000

Penza, Russia

6/1/2007 - 11/30/2007

Within the project framework, an attempt was made to create a socio-governmental institution to develop strategic planning standards in realization of national projects. A Strategy Municipal Team was formed to coordinate all the strategic planning standards. City administrators formed a strategy development Department, and a project analysis center was created for experts and public organizations utilizing strategy development.

Independent Regional Press Support Foundation

M07-0064

\$215,000

Moscow, Russia

12/10/2007 - 9/9/2008

During the life of the project, the following events were conducted: - 15 trainings for journalists; 3 conferences for publishers and print media regional top-managers; and 2 summit meetings on experience exchanges between AIRP members. The project provided institutional support for the AIRP as it was outlined in the main agreement between Eurasia Foundation and USAID.

Karelian Regional Institute of management economics and law at PetrSU, under the Government

M08-0013

\$50,000

Petrozavodsk, Russia

4/1/2008 - 2/15/2009

To improve the management quality within the power production complex of the Republic of Karelia. The deployment of new management technologies was driven by the need to make more effective use of the Republic's natural fuel resources and power production potential. The project helped design and test a qualifications improvement program for the industry specialists, "Power Production Management". The program included typical training modules designed to meet of domestic and foreign requirements, regional peculiarities, and the needs of the project target groups. An optimal method of implementing this training program was also designed. The training program was modified and adjusted to meet specific needs of the project's different target groups and five specialized qualifications improvement curricula were designed. The project concluded with the publication of a "Power Production Management" textbook.

Local Level Collaboration Center/ Krasnoyarsk Regional Community Organization

M07-0054

\$40,000

Krasnoyarsk, Russia

12/29/07-09/21/09

To improve the quality of the Internet-portal of the Russian community schools movement. The project acts as a tool that facilitates networking among the community schools, helps attract partners and recruit new member-schools interested in using the community school model, and enables general education schools from Arkhangelsk region and Novgorod-the-Great to implement the community school model. The project helped improve the technical operation aspect and augmented the substance of the Internet-portal of the Russian national community schools movement (the portal was equipped with an interactive guide, the "Library" section was restructured and optimized, the FAQ section keeps growing regularly). In the course of the training program for the school teams from Arkhangelsk region and Novgorod-the-Great, the participant schools expanded their focus and became centers of supplementary education, recreation, and social life for the local residents of all ages and interests. Two training sessions were held as well as the advisory support provided throughout the school year to supply the participant schools with requisite knowledge, skills, materials, experience, and support that will enable them to play an important role in their respective communities.

Municipal Office Nadvoitsky Rural Town

M06-0052

\$19,818

Nadvoitsy, Russia

11/1/2006 - 9/30/2007

Noncommercial Organization "Public initiative"

M07-0041

\$16,000

Kazan, Russia

5/1/2007 - 4/15/2009

The project attempts to elaborate an effective mechanism for managing development and implementation of Kazan city strategic development plan within the frames of realization of national priority projects.

Noncommercial Organization "Civil Initiatives Support Foundation of Nizhny Novgorod"

M07-0028

\$68,270

Nizhny Novgorod/Volgograd, Russia

2/1/2007 - 1/31/2008

To fostering housing culture among citizens through the development of a network of schools of education in the housing sphere. The project was implemented in four pilot regions: Volgograd, Nizhny Novgorod, Pskov, and Krasnodar. Recognition of the role of NGOs in implementation of the housing and utility sector reform at the federal level is deemed as the key result of the project. In particular, the network of Housing Education Schools was supported by the RF Ministry of regional development and relevant regional structures. During the project implementation period the Network expanded from eight to 12 organizations encompassing 11 Russian regions. Activities of the Network member-organizations resulted in the creation of a housing education model and technology, a common information environment, and a number of forums. The Network member-organizations have implemented several joint projects. The Network's operation has facilitated establishment and development of new institutions (housing associations, unions, clubs, etc.) and mobilized the housing movement in Russia. It has improved effectiveness and efficiency of education and enlightenment activities in the housing sphere and supported the development of housing self-governance.

Nonprofit "Taganrog's Centre of Educational Technology"

M08-0002

\$14,725

Moscow, Russia

12/21/07-12/24/08

The project implemented by the Center of Educational Technologies (Taganrog) was aimed at shaping the active position of youth in local communities' life. The program was worked out for this purpose and retraining courses were given for different types of recipients. Preliminary questioning made it possible to determine several target groups for learning: university professors, teachers and deputy directors of educational work at schools of the city and district, and specialists working with the youth of municipal councils.

Region Public Organization of Invalids "Children's Order of Charity"

M07-0059

\$7,347

Russia

10/29/2007 - 2/29/2008

During autumn school holidays (November, 3 - 10) the training program was implemented for group of leaders from the city of Tarko-Sale and Khanymey village (Yamalo-Nenets autonomy) together with participants of the School of Mutual Humanism from the regional public organization of disabled people named "Child's Medal of Charity". 55 children (from the city of Tarko-Sale and Khanymey village of Yamal-Nenets Autonomy, city of Naberezhnye Chelny of Republic of Tatarstan, city of Volzhsk of Republic of Mariy-El, Perm, Orenbourg, Orel, Astrakhan, Sarov, Moscow, city of Kolomn of Moscow Region) took part in the training program. Two handicapped children - Kostya Trofimov and Sasha Kurakin, and starblind children were the subject for special care for all the participants. The activity of the project "We Are Together" trainers was aimed at reaching the objectives and goals pointed in the logic model.

Resource Center of Community Schools

M07-0055

\$24,996

Omsk, Russia

12/20/07-09/21/09

To put together methodological recommendations on designing community school development programs. The project was implemented in seven areas of the Russian Federation, including the Omsk, Kemerovo, and Samara regions, the Krasnoyarsk and Primorye territories, and the Republics of Altai and Khakassia. The project summarized community school experiences in designing community school development programs, and formed an understanding of the variable nature of community school development programs. The newly created intellectual product was tested in the regions in the course of the final phase of the project. The project resulted in methodological recommendations on designing community school development programs and a foundation for networking among community school experts.

Russian State Pedagogical University under name of A.I.Gertsen

M07-0006

\$33,354

Sankt-Petersburg, Russia

4/1/2007 - 8/28/2008

The project "Innovative development of regional universities: qualification improvement of faculty members" of the Russian State Teachers' Training University is designed to improve professional qualifications of faculty members from eight pilot Russian regional universities." An innovative retraining program called "Training of development managers for Russian regional Universities" was developed and put in place; 36 teaching staff representatives from 8 Russian regional universities participated in the program and received retraining state certificates; 24 teaching staff representatives from 8 regional universities received state certificates as tutors; and 14 new educational technologies were mastered by retraining program listeners.

Stavropol State University

M06-0037

\$13,690

Stavropol, Russia

10/1/2006 - 12/31/2007

The project was designed to support institutional development of the Stavropol State University Commercialization Office. As a result of the project, the Commercialization Office expanded the scope of services it provides to individual researchers and university research teams in intellectual property management and commercialization of new technologies and solutions. In addition, the Stavropol State University Commercialization Office designed and successfully tested a mechanism that it now uses to identify, select, and advance university-designed technologies and solutions into the real economy sector. The Commercialization Office looks for sources of funding required for commercialization of new technologies and solutions, negotiates with potential investors, prepares and supports license agreements, etc. The Commercialization Office contributed to a number of normative documents regulating the university's intellectual property policy and facilitating development of the university's corporate innovation environment. The grantee published the following materials in the course of the project: "Innovations in a modern university: normative documents" and "Innovations in a modern university: terms and notions". The project enabled the university to grow its innovation potential and facilitated development of the innovation sphere of the Stavropol region upon the whole.

Voronezh Regional Public Children's Organization "Iskra"

M08-0003

\$25,303

Voronezh, Russia

05/01/08-09/21/09

The project was designed to create a team of qualified community school trainers in Russia. The project included a series of training sessions for experienced and aspiring community school trainers. Implementation of the project improved qualifications of 13 experienced community school trainers. Unique training programs promoting and developing the community school idea were designed and tested. 29 aspiring community school trainers underwent training in the fundamental components of the community school model and conducted their individual training sessions. Participation in training programs of representatives of community school resource centers from across Russia enabled them to exchange information about new operation methods and technologies of both community schools and their resource centers.

Karelia Public Organizations Resource Center

M08-0011

\$49,815

Petrozavodsk, Russia

1/4/2008 - 1/31/2009

To introduce a system of continuous hospitality training for entrepreneurs from the Republic of Karelia. The system was designed using the most advanced experiences of Norwegian partners. The system is comprised of a number of training programs for hospitality industry specialists that were designed in compliance with relevant European standards. Twenty representatives of small hospitality businesses from the Republic of Karelia underwent hospitality business development training with participation of Norwegian hospitality business experts, which then led to a design of

hospitality business investment projects and the establishment of an international hospitality training center in the settlement of Loukhi, Republic of Karelia. Additionally, the project designed an international partnership model for introduction of new hospitality training technologies

Tajikistan

Public Union Anis

D07-0055

\$13,675

Kulyab, Tajikistan

4/1/2008 - 3/31/2009

As part of the project, meetings with the representatives of local institutions and NGO's were held in four regions of Khatlon district: Khuroson, Muminobod, Shurobod and Khamadoni. The target group is 80 women from poor families; Seminars and trainings were based on business implementation, production of national and European candies, and general principles of business development. 80 women were trained in basic cooking skills. The Fair-Exhibition was held with participation of more than 100 cooks from the four regions of Khatlon district. 27 women began their own at-home cooking businesses and a cook book was developed and 200 copies were published.

Public Union New Generation

D07-0057

\$13,853

Khujand, Tajikistan

1/15/2008 - 1/15/2009

At present, girls' access to education in Tajikistan is increasingly at risk, particularly in rural areas. According to a study conducted in 2005, gender discrepancies in primary school have reached 11.4% from 0.8% in 1990. Information about this issue is currently lacking, but given decreased quality of life in Tajikistan it is clear that the situation has grown worse. Focus of this project is to assist 17-year old girls from vulnerable circumstances to return to school and provide support for psycho-social adaptation. Project activities included conducting a study illuminating the primary causes preventing girls from attending school and determine steps necessary for their return to school, and providing instruction in sewing design and sewing, computers, and cuisine. Additionally, seminars in teambuilding and leadership, human rights, gender, family planning, health, AIDS and drug use, conflict management and tolerance, and business planning were held. Seminars for parent committees on raising adolescents, psychological consultations for girls and their parents and meetings with parent committees regarding working with students were held. A talk-show was broadcast on local television to raise awareness about the problem of girls dropping out of school. Results included an improved understanding of the primary causes preventing girls from attending school (economic problems, gender stereotypes, refusal to allow girls to study, and religious justifications), and establishment of courses for promoting necessary knowledge among girls (sewing design and sewing, computer lessons, and cuisine, as well as teambuilding, leadership, human rights, gender, family planning, health, AIDS and drug use, conflict management and tolerance, and business planning). 97 girls received training in sewing design and sewing, cuisine, and computer; and 98 girls gained increased knowledge through seminars (teambuilding, leadership, human rights, gender, family planning, health, AIDS and drug use, conflict management and tolerance, and business planning). 167 girls and their parents have received quality psychological counseling. Students from three school performed plays on the theme "Should girls attend school?" for more

than 70 classmates, teachers, and parents, and a concluding roundtable on "Returning girls to school" to discuss the problem of school absence and ways to resolve it was held. 2 girls organized a fashion show in the city of Gafurov with the help of the learning center run by the organization "New Generation" and established their own workshop employing 4 people, and 6 girls with differing terms of absence from school returned to school with the help of the organization "New Generation" and the parent committee.

Ukraine

Agency for Economic Development, Voznesensk City

K08-0091

\$24,748

Voznesensk, Ukraine

7/1/2008 - 3/31/2009

To demonstrate the effectiveness of alternative energy sources. This project installed a heating system with two solid fuel boilers, using wood chips or pellets as fuel in the city Museum of Art. In promoting the benefits of recycling, a grassroots public awareness campaign explaining the principles of separate waste collection distributed 2,000 leaflets and 500 booklets. A promotional campaign led to 10 articles, 18 internet publications, one TV spot and two radio programs. Additionally, 13 recycling seminars were held for children, with field trips to communal enterprises. Finally, a brochure explaining the economic and ecological advantages of fuel pellets for heating was published and a conference on alternative energy sources for local authorities in Mykolayiv oblast was organized to report on the project's progress, leading to a 30% reduction in waste processed by municipal refuse treatment centers.

Agency for Local Development of Husiatyn Region

K08-0326

\$10,475

Husiatyn, Ukraine

5/22/2008 - 11/22/2008

To increase the rate of utility of a document exchange computer network between governing bodies. The project sought to build a district network of public service centers using modern information technology. Since the project's inception, 42 local councils have opened public service centers and 87 representatives of local governments were trained to staff them. To accomplish this, 45 local ordinances were adopted and 69 public service procedures were streamlined and presented in service cards. A manual on IT in local governance was published and distributed among rural councils. The project resulted in a 25% increase in the number of active users of the district computer network and a 12-fold increased volume of electronic document exchange.

Club Socis

K08-0381

\$15,313

Drogobych, Ukraine

10/1/2008 - 7/16/2009

To expand employment opportunities for the disabled. The grantee organized professional training for 14 people in two professions, electrical technician and sewing. A hotline for people with disabilities seeking advice on employment-related issues was established and over the duration of the project, 202 consultations were provided; 40 people were trained in the topic of tourism for people with disabilities during two 60-hour course sessions; 40 more people participated in seminars on entrepreneurship. Two booklets on successful job hunting and opportunities for employment of people with disabilities were published. The project improved the quality of life for people with disabilities and provided a model for better cooperation to ensure better services for the target group.

Council of Leninskaya veterans' organization of Poltava city

K08-0374

\$12,443

Poltava, Ukraine

11/1/2008 - 4/14/2009

Despite Ukraine's improved social standards and decreasing poverty, city social service departments still struggle to provide assistance to the elderly and citizens with disabilities because they lack the financial means to facilitate community activities essential to improving these citizens' quality of life. To facilitate the provision of these vital services to the elderly, the grantee founded a community center at the Leninsky District Office of Social Services in the city of Poltava. As part of the first stage of the project, the grantee purchased furniture and equipment for the center. More than 150 seniors and people with disabilities participated in various center-sponsored activities, including karaoke, movie night, literature readings, aromatherapy, excursions and seminars on social, legal and medical issues. The local media took interest in the center and spotlighted its activities in five different articles.

Creative Union of Scientific and Engineering Communities (Societies) of Crimea

K08-0043

\$32,990

Simferopol, Ukraine

5/28/2008 - 11/28/2008

Focusing on local governments, communal enterprises and small- to medium-size business owners, the grantee conducted a broad information campaign on the application and benefits of solar power. The grantee held a series of seminars on the benefits of solar energy for 56 local government representatives and entrepreneurs, as well as a workshop for specialists and scientists. To demonstrate the effectiveness of the technology and motivate local authorities to implement it, the grantee installed solar panels at a kindergarten and community gym, audited the energy efficiency of 12 social-sector buildings and analyzed energy-saving opportunities in the Bakhchisarai district. In Simferopol, the grantee created an information center for providing consultations to the local population on energy-saving issues and installing individual solar power equipment. The center has provided more than 100 consultations, raising interest among some households in installing solar panels, prompting requests for assistance from 29 municipal establishments and 15 businesses.

Eidos International Charity Foundation

K08-0386

\$6,132

Kyiv, Ukraine

2/1/2009 - 3/31/2009

To address the need for recycling, the grantee initiated a public awareness project to encourage people to recycle. Targeting youth, residents and visitors, the grantee conducted a broad information campaign on the importance of recycling. Project managers launched a website, www.remake.com.ua, to illustrate the possibilities of recycling plastics. The grantee also sponsored two project presentations and one workshop, including a short presentation on reusing packaging materials to create art. The grantee printed and posted advertisements on 48 light boxes in three Kyiv metro stations (Lybidska, Vokzalna and Politekhnychny Institute) and distributed 9,000 postcards and 200 posters highlighting the project throughout the city. During the two-month grant period, the website hosted 1,132 unique visitors and project activities garnered more than 30 news

pieces. The project increased public awareness of recycling and the environmental consciousness of youth and art milieu representatives.

Kremenchuk's Community Development Foundation

K08-0371

\$15,479

Kremenchuk, Ukraine

8/1/2008 - 1/31/2009

To address the issue of lacking provisions to assist the elderly and citizens with disabilities. The grantee created a community center in the Avtozavodskiy district of Kremenchuk. The project made more than 1,000 services available to the local senior population by organizing legal, social and psychological consultations and introducing new services such as a laundry service and the photocopying of documents. About 565 people have benefited from the center and participated in hobby-related clubs on crafts, board games and singing. The grantee also held a large lobbying campaign, which included a press conference and seminar for local city council deputies and thus managed to secure funding for the center for 2009.

Slavutych City Foundation for Entrepreneurs Support

K08-0208

\$23,141

Slavutych, Ukraine

5/15/2008 - 11/30/2008

To address the issue of bureaucratic gridlock and promote entrepreneurship in the city of Slavutych in Kyiv oblast. The grantee introduced IT solutions into local government regulations, creating a more streamlined procedure to obtain permits. Monitoring of existing procedures helped the grantee identify ways to improve the permit system and provide recommendations to local authorities. A data center was established that simplified the acquisition of permits and provided entrepreneurs with a new city-wide geo-information system. The grantee worked with the local government to develop seven new local ordinances and the necessary software. The grantee trained 155 representatives of different user groups, in addition to conducting a promotional campaign explaining the benefits of the new system to citizens. The grantee also published a handbook, Obtaining Permits: Step by Step.

Small Business Laboratory

K08-0068

\$22,487

Slavutich, Ukraine

6/1/2008 - 4/3/2009

To address the issue of managed energy policy the city of Slavutych - Kyiv oblast. The grantee evaluated the energy consumption of municipal buildings and the obstacles impeding energy-saving measures. A promotional campaign touting energy efficiency to employees and citizens ensued in 12 articles in the print media, six TV segments (aired 29 times) and 51 online articles. During the 10-month grant period, more than 160 participants underwent project training activities. The grantee also introduced energy-saving training courses at city schools after developing and testing the courses for different grades in conjunction with the city education department. A new system was piloted at one of the city schools to establish a practical example of energy efficiency by regulating the school's heating system by need.

Union of Organizations of Invalids of Ukraine - Dykanka Branch

K08-0376

\$15,480

Dikanka, Ukraine

8/1/2008 - 1/31/2009

To address the dearth of assistance to the elderly and citizens with disabilities. The grantee created a community center based at the Dykanka Territorial Center. As part of the first stage of the project, the grantee oversaw the renovation of the premises and purchased necessary furniture and equipment. More than 50 seniors and people with disabilities participated in various center activities, such as literature readings, music, aromatherapy, excursions and seminars on social and medical topics. A course on computer literacy was organized for 11 people with disabilities. Local media featured three articles on the center's activities. Part of EEF's Community Centers for People in Need program, this project is co-funded by Telenor in Ukraine with support from the Dykanka District Administration.

Union to Promote Rural Green Tourism in Ukraine, Bar Branch

K08-0027

\$22,297

Bar, Vinnytsia oblast, Ukraine

5/5/2008 - 12/2/2008

To cooperate in planning the development of the eco-tourism and folk craft industries in the Vinnytsia region. The grantee trained 122 employees of local state employment centers, local government bodies and potential and existing entrepreneurs in developing rural tourism in the region, guest-house management and folk craft production and marketing. The grantee also helped six local communities formulate entrepreneurial development strategies, created and promoted tourism opportunities and initiated an informal network of craftsmen to combine marketing efforts. To reach a wider audience, the grantee created www.greentour.vn.ua, which hosts useful information for tourists, as well as descriptions of a new tourist route, the Podilya Golden Ring. During the seven-month project, three new businesses were created and more than 120 tourists, including international groups, visited the region.

Belarusian Institute for Strategic Studies

K07-0147

\$29,567

Vilnius (Eastern Europe Studies Centre), Lithuania

3/10/2008 - 5/31/2009

In order to identify opportunities for public dialogue in Belarus the grantee conducted research which helped to learn about 'social contracts,' or how authorities relate and interact with various societal demographics, such as youth, wage earners (urban and rural workers), entrepreneurs, public officials and pensioners. The grantee led and supervised research conducted by a consortium of Belarusian analytical organizations, objectively investigated public dialogue, and made policy recommendations specific to demographic groups. Nongovernmental organizations, public policy, legal experts and community organizers have benefited from this knowledge by understanding why the general population tolerates or even favors a non-democratic political regime. The grantee has now become better equipped to reach out to the public, using popular messages that effectively advocate for democratic and economic reforms in Belarus.

Charity Foundation 'Heifer Project International -Ukraine'

K07-0047

\$18,593

Kyiv, Ukraine

9/4/2007 - 2/4/2008

A large portion of the income of Odesa oblast's rural population is generated by selling animal husbandry products. However, due to the lack of special skills, knowledge and industry technologies, their profits are very low. The grantee addressed this issue by initiating a project which generated new job opportunities and stimulated small business growth in rural areas in Odesa oblast in the field of animal husbandry. About 150 farmers from three districts of Odesa oblast received training and consultations on various aspects of meat and dairy production, successful business management, and technological developments. The project helped to establish three initiative groups, two of which registered as farm cooperatives by the end of the project. Members of the initiative groups and cooperatives received in-kind support from the grantee in the form of livestock and equipment, which assisted in increasing their levels of productivity. The project experience was spread with the help of the publication and a round table and highlighted by local media. As part of the Eurasia Foundation's Local Economic Development Program, co-funded by the OSCE Project Coordinator and US Agency for International Development, the project nearly doubled the profitability of animal husbandry among the target audience.

Ecological Education Association

K07-0085

\$22,000

Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine

8/20/2007 - 7/30/2008

Ukraine lacks a general concern for and understanding of vital ecological and energy issues. In order to foster environmental and energy awareness among the younger generation, which is the most receptive to new technologies and energy efficiency, the grantee worked to improve ecological knowledge, including the basics of energy efficiency and renewable energy. The grantee opened an energy training center for children that presented models of various energy-efficient technologies and relevant literature. The project launched three modules of a training course on energy efficiency for schools, which included the publishing of textbooks for preschools and elementary schools, as well as materials for teachers. The grantee also oversaw a special training session for teachers on energy efficiency. The grantee organized a contest to design a poster promoting energy efficiency, an ecological fair, a mobile exhibition and other events that helped attract public attention to the importance of energy efficiency. During the academic year, the training center gave lessons and organized excursions for 1,217 children from 34 educational establishments. Seven teachers that worked to develop the training course and teaching materials won several competitions conducted by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and other institutions. Promotional ads were aired on local television and radio stations and advertisements were printed in various publications. The project, co-funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and USAID, helped promote energy-saving techniques and environmental awareness.

Izmail Foundation for Entrepreneurs Support

K07-0050

\$18,060

Izmail, Odesa oblast, Ukraine

7/16/2007 - 7/15/2008

The southern part of Odesa oblast is rich in resources to fuel the tourist industry and there is high demand for local souvenirs, but few skilled craftsmen to produce them. At the same time, the oblast's rural areas are expected to suffer from high unemployment rates in the coming year. To address these issues, the grantee held workshops on traditional craftsmanship for the unemployed in the Bolhrad, Izmail and Kiliya districts of Odesa oblast. As a result, 128 people learned traditional artisan and craft-making techniques. Project experts developed instruction manuals for producing 30 different traditional crafts and 109 craftsmen were schooled in basic business and marketing tools. To help the new craftsmen begin businesses, the grantee organized 11 exhibition fairs, published a catalogue, launched an online store and created a database of 64 local craftsmen on the newly created website www.danubesouvenir.com. On the legislative level, the project helped lobby for a fixed tax in five major crafts-related entrepreneurial activities in the Izmail region. A group of local craftsman also registered the Pridunaiskiy Souvenir association to market their wares and lobby municipal authorities. About 24 print and internet articles were published about the project. A partnership was established with local authorities and employment centers, which resulted in the production of a joint operating plan for 2009. As part of EF's Local Economic Development initiative, co-funded by the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine and USAID, the project launched 79 new businesses and helped make existing ventures more profitable.

Khortytsia Rayon Union of Entrepreneurs "Porada"

K07-0037

\$19,648

Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine

8/27/2007 - 8/31/2008

In Zaporizhzhia, large businesses are experiencing growth, but small entrepreneurship is decreasing, partly because small businesses have little to no incentive to use innovative technologies and approaches. To address this issue, the grantee worked to encourage innovation in the production sector in Zaporizhzhia oblast. Project experts compiled a database of 165 production enterprises in the oblast and analyzed relevant legislation to identify major impediments to entrepreneurial development. Using research results, the grantee came up with strategic plans for improving permit acquisition procedures to increase efficiency at permit offices. It also organized four business clubs to unite production entrepreneurs and provide them with opportunities to gain new skills, share best practices, establish business contacts, foster a forum for dialogue with local authorities and discuss common problems. The grantee also developed recommendations for local authorities and entrepreneurs and produced an informational booklet for Zaporizhzhia, Energodar and Tokmak identifying local regulation specificities for each town. To highlight and update project activities, the grantee created a project website and worked with media, which lead to seven publications. As part of EF's Local Economic Development initiative, co-funded by the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine and USAID, the project provided a range of support to start-up and existing entrepreneurs and helped create 42 new jobs in Zaporizhzhia oblast.

Letavytsia Public Organization

K07-0067

\$17,518

Donetsk, Ukraine

8/1/2007 - 4/30/2008

Many remote towns and villages in Donetsk oblast lack a stable energy supply, which threatens the economic well being of local communities as the cost of Russian gas rises. To address this issue, the grantee worked with local communities to introduce alternative energy equipment and conduct a public awareness campaign. The grantee created a database of bio-energy systems being used in Ukraine and then selected three of the most applicable systems for the pilot regions. In addition, a database of bio-energy system producers was also created for use by other stakeholders in the field. The grantee held a broad information campaign, publishing three brochures summarizing the project and two informational leaflets, which triggered media interest and resulted in the publication of 18 articles in the press, two radio programs and continued interest in the topic after the project's end. Five buildings were selected for piloting three different types of bio-energy systems in four villages and three demonstration seminars for local communities were conducted. At the end of the project, the grantee organized a roundtable to discuss project results. The project, co-funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and USAID, resulted in better conditions for residents of the pilot villages and increased local communities' interest in alternative energy.

Nizhnegorie Entrepreneurs and Agrarians Union

K04-0254

\$24,679

s. Nizhnegorsky, Ukraine

1/10/2005 - 1/20/2006

In Ukraine, a lack of skills among mayors and council members prevents local governments from effectively addressing local development needs. Local officials have little experience engaging constituents, often leading to a lack of public trust and confidence. To address this issue, the grantee provided rural councils in Crimea with new approaches and community involvement tools to solve existing local problems. The grantee trained and advised 90 rural council officials and community activists of 20 rural councils in public private partnership, legal aspects of local self-governance, information technologies, private entrepreneurship development and other key areas. The grantee also organized a study tour to Western Ukraine for 16 rural council members. Pilot projects were initiated by community members in 19 villages of the Nyzhniokhirs'kyi district of the Crimean Autonomous Republic. These projects targeted various areas, such as water supply reconstruction and the establishment of communal enterprises and nursing homes. Participating rural councils created the Association of Local Governments. The project gave council members from the target areas much-needed practical skills, including how to effectively use citizen input to make decisions. The project experience was covered by local media and shared with 33 representatives of different rural councils of the Crimean Autonomous Republic.

Public Institution "Institute of International Education"

K07-0128

\$363,531

Vilnius, Lithuania

10/1/2007 - 4/30/2009

The grant has provided up to 1200 students an alternative to state-controlled university education through distance learning programs at the European Humanities University (EHU), a Belarusian institution "exiled" to Vilnius, Lithuania. EHU has also improved its information management and security systems, administrative and management capacity, and ultimately, its prospects for sustainability. The project has promoted academic freedom in Belarus and contributed to a growing cadre of well-educated Belarusians capable of making positive changes in their country.

Regional Fund for Entrepreneurship Support in Poltava Region

K07-0024

\$19,742

Poltava, Ukraine

9/13/2007 - 3/13/2008

Economic diversity is important to encourage growth in Ukraine's market economy, especially in rural areas where opportunities are limited and the unemployment rate is high. Residents of these areas must find and develop new ways to generate income, but the population lacks the necessary resources and skills to make small enterprises effective. To address this issue in three pilot districts of Poltava oblast, the grantee worked to promote rural tourism, agriculture and communal services as prospective industries for the growth of entrepreneurship. To research supply and demand, the grantee polled 299 entrepreneurs to identify the main issues hindering business development and questioned 300 consumers to determine the level of market saturation. To improve the skills of existing and start-up businesses, the grantee conducted three seminars for 78 people, including the unemployed and entrepreneurs. It also held a seminar on best practices in communal services for 26 people, provided 204 phone consultations after establishing a hotline and organized a tour of the city of Kamenets for a 23-person focus group. In order to facilitate dialogue between entrepreneurs and local authorities, the grantee initiated three roundtables for 74 entrepreneurs, hosted six advisory council meetings and published and distributed a manual on small-business entrepreneurship. The grantee also conducted an oblast-wide contest for the best entrepreneur among 30 business owners and financed three business plans. The grantee conducted a public service campaign that printed two issues of the newspaper Entrepreneur and Consumer, which has a circulation of 3000 copies, aired two TV specials and published six newspaper articles. It also produced and distributed a CD highlighting project results and developed a workbook on reforming the utilities system. The project, co-funded by the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine and USAID, ensued in improved small and medium-sized business support, the establishment of an advisory council and the promotion of entrepreneurship in the target districts in Poltava oblast.

Rural Development and Legal Assistance Center

K07-0059

\$18,256

Odesa, Ukraine

8/27/2007 - 6/30/2008

Economic diversity is important to encourage growth in Ukraine's market economy, especially in rural areas where opportunities are limited and the unemployment rate is high. Residents of these

areas must find and develop new ways to generate income, but the population lacks the necessary resources and skills to make small enterprises effective. To help resolve these issues in the Velyka Myhailivka, Ivanivka and Rozdilna districts of Odesa oblast, the grantee supported small and medium enterprises by compiling a database of start-up and existing entrepreneurs in the pilot districts, studying these entrepreneurs' needs and developing a training program for them. The grantee conducted four seminars for entrepreneurs in each district and organized 18 information sessions on entrepreneurship. In all, 669 start-up and existing entrepreneurs participated in project activities. The grantee also developed 30 of the most effective business models for start-up entrepreneurs in the pilot territories. Sample business plans in electronic and hard-copy format were developed for distribution during consultations. The project, co-funded by the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine and USAID, established three information centers and contributed to the registration of 596 new businesses in three districts of Odesa oblast.

Union of Entrepreneurs of Small, Medium and Privatized Enterprises of Ukraine, Sevastopol

K06-0217

\$19,647

Sevastopol, Ukraine

3/14/2007 - 3/13/2008

Ukraine's law on the state regulation of economic activity came into force in 2004, but it did not begin to benefit the owners of small- and medium-sized businesses until recently since entrepreneurs did not know their rights and authorities did not adhere to the law. To solve this problem, the grantee launched a campaign publicizing the law among entrepreneurs and promoting dialogue between small- and medium-sized businesses and local authorities. The grantee monitored and analyzed current regulatory policies and issued recommendations to authorities. The legal assistance center founded by the grantee held 12 training sessions and 1,206 consultations for businesses, business associations and local lawmakers. The local media printed and aired 39 articles and radio and TV programs. The grantee produced two publications summarizing the project and fostered the exchange of best practices between entrepreneurs through two conferences, internet forums and 14 mailings. The project, co-funded by the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine and USAID under EF's Local Economic Development program, resulted in the creation of a union of entrepreneurs that protects the rights of small- and medium-sized business owners and lobbies for more favorable conditions.

Western Ukrainian Resource Center

K06-0123

\$29,498

Lviv, Ukraine

9/25/2006 - 3/31/2008

The energy crisis in Ukraine in 2005-2006 caused a harsh increase in fuel prices, which led to a budget deficit for heating public buildings. These buildings use old heating systems which are not energy efficient. Almost all technologies for sorting and processing husbandry waste are also inefficient and lead to environmental pollution. To address these issues, the grantee promoted the introduction of biogas technologies in Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv and Ternopil oblasts. Targeting communal enterprises and small/medium enterprise owners, the grantee conducted a wide

informational campaign on the application and benefits of biogas technology. Namely, the grantee organized multiple visits to communities and published various information materials distributed to local governments and farmers. The project activities were also widely covered by local media, at various all-Ukrainian public events. Two biogas generators were piloted in Lviv Children's Ecological Center and Nazaret Rehabilitation Center in Drohobych district. The grantee also created a biogas technologies training center that trained six technical specialists to work with biogas generators. The grantee also organized eight seminars on the benefits of these generators for 107 local entrepreneurs and farmers, and provided 78 individual consultations. The organization also created a website of the training center for information support of its work. Inspired by the project, local residents expressed their interest in purchasing biogas generators for private use. Co-funded by the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine, the project resulted in increased awareness of renewable energy technologies among entrepreneurs and communal enterprises in target territories.

Youth Initiatives Department Public Organization

K07-0087

\$25,753

Kharkiv, Ukraine

6/18/2007 - 6/17/2008

According to the annual report of the Kharkiv oblast governor, consumption of fuel in the oblast is the highest in Eastern Ukraine. Considering the burden on local budgets and environmental harm, this translates into an urgent need for increasing energy efficiency in the region. To address this issue, the grantee stimulated innovative and participatory solutions to improve energy efficiency in Valky, Kupiansk and Balakliya districts of Kharkiv oblast. The grantee analyzed energy-saving opportunities using non-traditional sources of energy for each of the three pilot districts and disseminated research results through the district state administrations' websites and in the media. It also trained a group of 30 local experts and activists in developing and implementing local energy efficiency plans and helped to create three initiative groups in these districts. The project included a series of six trainings for the initiative groups and three study tours to other regions that have already successfully tested energy efficiency models. These groups developed and publicly presented programs to increase energy efficiency for the three pilot districts, and these programs were adopted by their respective district councils. To ensure its sustainability, the project also created a regional foundation to support energy efficiency which by the completion of the project raised 102,000 UAH from local businesses. The implementation of nine community initiatives was funded by the new foundation. The project experience was summarized in the publication *Local Partner Initiatives for Energy Efficiency* (300 copies) and disseminated among local partners in the region and at a concluding conference. Thirty-one publications in local media and a competition of scientific projects among schoolchildren also helped to raise interest and awareness in the topic. Project experience has been picked up and replicated in two other districts of Kharkiv oblast. The project was co-funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Uzbekistan

Navoi Oblast Business Women's Association "Tadbirqor Ayol"

T04-1234

\$75,434

Navoi, Uzbekistan

9/27/2004 - 8/30/2008

Unavailability of government institutions to work with objects of intellectual property, and weak court defense of copy rights makes it unprofitable to create new objects of intellectual property, their legal use in the industry and trade. Violation cases of intellectual property influence the image of Uzbekistan negatively at the international level. Grantee developed an electronic version of the textbook and training program on patenting as well as an Internet site. The textbook was approved by the Ministry of Education of Uzbekistan. Twenty one universities of Uzbekistan were provided with CD-ROMs and the textbooks. Internet site (www.intellect.uz, www.intellekt.uz) has information about news and legislation on patenting. There are additional requests for CD-ROMs. Approbation of a training course was available in two universities. Some objective facts (lack of license and changes in the staff of the universities) did not allow introducing the course in all universities and at the Internet site.

Washington, DC

"The Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia" Corporate Foundation

W07-0025

\$9,013

Almaty, Kazakhstan

5/31/2007 - 2/1/2009

In order to support families with physically disabled children, EFCA with the financial assistance from Philip Morris Kazakhstan issued a grant to the Women's Union of the Ural Region "Umit-Nadezhda" in city of Uralsk. Within the framework of the project, Umit-Nadezhda assisted 15 low-income families with disabled children, providing them with monthly food-baskets, and conducting regular sessions of art-therapy and psychological guidance, and legal consultations. The grantee also held weekend camps for the target group and conducted events celebrating International Women's Day, Nauryz and Children's Day June 1. By the end of the project, EFCA and the grantee developed a strategic plan to advance the outcomes of the project and submitted it to PMK on February 19, 2009.

"The Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia" Public Foundation

W07-0031

\$7,238

Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

9/15/2007 - 3/15/2008

In order to increase capacity, quality and financial viability of radio, TV, and print media coverage in the Ferghana Valley, Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia implemented the second phase of the Ferghana Valley Media program. With support from the British Embassy in Tajikistan, the OSCE center in Bishkek and USAID, EFCA undertook a number of activities, such as round tables and forums, extensive business and marketing training, and on-side consultations focused on financial sustainability and professional growth. It also allocated small grants to strengthen organizational capacity of mass media outlets in the FV. As a result, the target media outlets achieved significant progress in enhancing their institutional capacity by improving their marketing, human resources and planning systems. Moreover, the project helped the media outlets improve quality of information, increase their popularity and launch interesting programs based on popular demand

Leningrad Region Foundation of Social Support

W08-0007

\$200,000

St.-Petersburg, Russia

8/1/2008 - 12/31/2008

With support from Philip Morris International, Eurasia Foundation helped the Leningrad Regional Foundation for Social Support purchase a magnetic resonance scanner for a local hospital. The scanner will substantially improve medical examinations and diagnoses for the people of St. Petersburg, and will allow the hospital to provide medical assistance to a larger number of patients.

Government , Civil Society and Media Participation Against Corruption

W07-0042

\$177,905

Yerevan, Armenia

3/12/2008 - 12/31/2008

After the Corruption Perception Report by Transparency International in 2005 showed that Armenia's three-year Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan of 2003 failed to deliver desirable outcomes, the Eurasia Foundation (EF) Representative Office in Armenia initiated a two-year program. The goal of the Government, Civil Society and Media Participation against Corruption (GCSMPC) was to strengthen the capacities and mobilize the efforts of journalists, media organizations, civil society organizations, and public offices in the fight against corruption. With financial assistance from the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF), EF successfully conducted a number of activities, including trainings for journalists on anti-corruption reporting; study tours for the representatives from NGOs, media institutions and government; training courses and conferences for NGOs; joint sessions for various participants, and an anti-corruption web-portal designed to publicize the program's achievements and to maintain a web-based network of partners and grantees. As a result of the grant activities, 15 media representatives, 40 local government representatives and 22 NGO representatives received training, and 5 media outlets implemented anti-corruption reporting projects. Moreover, the program resulted in the adoption of anti-corruption strategies by 9 municipalities. Overall, the project exceeded its expected outputs and outcomes directly benefitting over 200 people, and greatly contributing to Armenia's fight against corruption.

APPENDIX C
US GOVERNMENT GRANTS BY COUNTRY
OCTOBER 1, 2008 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2009

Armenia

Forum for XXI Century Leaders Youth NGO

\$18,847.76

Armenia

1/01/09 - 5/31/09

To increase the role of emerging young leaders from Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia in propagating democratic values and positive change in the region of the South Caucasus through raising the youth's knowledge of the values of parliamentary democracy and interest in democratic process, as well as building cross-border networks among young leaders. The three partner organizations will arrange for a 7-day pre-simulation workshop at the Bilgi University of Istanbul, Turkey, to develop skills and understanding of parliamentary work and legislative procedures with a group of 45 young leaders from the three countries of the South Caucasus, as well as to provide a forum for a simulation discourse among the participants on the issues of common concern. Provided the workshop is successful, the three partners will arrange for a follow-up workshop for another group of 45 participants from the South Caucasus, which will be followed by a Model Caucasus Parliament session in Strasbourg, France, in summer 2009. The project will be instrumental in establishing cross-border partnerships and networks among emerging young leaders of the South Caucasus, as well as turning the project participants into active proponents of parliamentary democracy as a unique mechanism for reconciling conflicting interests and expectations of different groups/communities through the means of communication and compromise.

Community Finance Officers Association

\$19,437.17

Armenia

3/02/09 - 11/22/09

To increase citizens' understanding of the Law on Local Self-Government in Armenia. The grantee will present the responsibilities and functions of local self-government bodies as prescribed by the Law in a straightforward, easy to read, yet comprehensive series of three manuals. The manuals will contain comments on the Law (to be gathered through stakeholder discussions), clarify the responsibilities of heads of municipalities and city council members, and include information on municipal budgeting and interrelations between local and national government authorities. As a result of the project, municipalities and other stakeholders will be provided with a useful tool to sort out ambiguities in the Law and to better understand their rights and responsibilities as defined by the Law.

Yerevan State Linguistic University after Brusov NCSO

\$14,406.56

Armenia

4/01/09 - 1/31/10

To improve mechanisms of employment through internship programs. The grantee, Yerevan State Linguistic University, will establish a model internship program. The grantee will create and maintain a database of potential placements and students interested in the program, set up summer internships for selected students, conduct workshops and trainings for employers and future interns, and organize career trips for interns. This project intends to develop a new mechanism of employing

students and graduates of one of Yerevan's major universities through the provision of valuable information on the job market in Armenia.

Green Tavush Development and Support Center NGO

\$8,599.57

Armenia (Tavush Province)

10/15/08 - 7/15/09

To raise awareness of environmental issues among young people of the Tavush region and involve them in addressing these concerns. The grantee will organize and implement an environmental educational program for young people in eight communities of the Tavush region and across the country. By organizing groups of young environmentalists, training them on issues of environmental protection, decision making, project design, monitoring, and organizing community conferences, the grantee will form a youth network and promote cooperation across communities on best environmental practices. According to the project, 15 training courses will be organized in eight villages of Tavush Marz. This project will lead to more than 130 youth aged 11-15 as well as community members of major villages of Tavush Marz becoming knowledgeable of environmental protection practices, increasing their sense of responsibility through direct involvement in cleaning and preserving their communities.

MELTEX Ltd.

\$27,479.72

Armenia

11/18/08 - 8/31/09

To increase the public's access to alternative media in Armenia. Independent media outlet A1+ will upgrade its popular website videos to articles, interactive polls and a search engine, as well as a news ticker with breaking news and a blog encouraging comments from users. The grantee will also add a call-in audio portal, where the public will be able to hear daily news briefs about political, economic, social and cultural developments in Armenia with a simple telephone call. By employing new alternative media tools and skills, the project will enable grass roots media to reach a larger audience both with and without Internet access

ADX Ltd.

\$18,454.96

Armenia (Yerevan City)

10/15/08 - 10/31/09

To increase the quality and depth of media coverage of some of the most important political issues facing Armenia. The grantee will take on political relations with Turkey, the European agenda, migration and the fight against corruption. The grantee will also work to stimulate public discussion around these issues, by publishing a special series of analysis, interviews, and the results of plenary sessions in discussion clubs. By project completion, the Armenian public will be better informed and their voice better heard on critical issues facing the country.

Investigative Journalists Non-Governmental Organization

\$46,214.41

Armenia

1/01/09 - 2/28/10

To improve local governance and strengthen community councils in rural areas. The grantee will conduct research in more than 60 communities (Lori, Kotayk, Shirak, Gegharkunik, Tavush and Syunik regions), then organize seminars for regional reporters and prepare and publish 14 online

articles per month, a monthly newspaper insert, and two TV programs. The grantee will then conduct a series of three roundtables on transparent and effective local governance with the participation of the Ministry of Territorial Administration, the National Assembly's Committee of Territorial Administration and Local Self-Government Affairs, journalists and NGOs. As a result of the project, rural residents will be better aware of community councils' activities and responsibilities, and community councils will become more transparent, and accountable to their constituents.

Political Sciences Academic-Research Foundation

\$11,088.03

Armenia

5/01/09 - 11/30/09

To advance the discourse on conflict resolution and regional security in the South Caucasus through scholarly research and expert discussion. The grantee, in partnership with the Lyon Centre for International Security and Defense Studies, will bring together an expert task force to study security and conflict transformation prospects in the South Caucasus, organize an international conference in Yerevan where they will submit the research findings for discussion and publish a book featuring the research findings and conference materials in English and Russian. The project will increase awareness locally and internationally of conflict resolution prospects and threats in the South Caucasus.

The Civilitas Foundation

\$14,369.29

Armenia

9/01/09 - 12/31/09

To build confidence and promote stability between Armenia and Turkey through changes in mutual perceptions, stereotypes, and misunderstandings, a bilingual web resource will be developed; one that will translate and republish articles that appear in the Armenian and Turkish print media. The grantee will translate more than 100 articles from Turkish into Armenian, and 50 articles from Armenian into Turkish. Additionally, the grantee and its Turkish partner Hrant Dink Foundation will establish a network of Armenian and Turkish print media outlets that will commit to collaboration with the grantee and the Hrant Dink Foundation throughout this six-month project and beyond. By increasing reciprocal media coverage in Armenia and Turkey, the project will contribute to greater mutual understanding of the issues Armenians and Turks confront.

International Center for Human Development (ICHD) NGO

\$78,526.48

Armenia

09/28/09-12/15/09

To advance an informed political dialogue between Armenia and Turkey. The grantee will conduct 14 Town Hall Meetings (THM) throughout Armenia, in 10 regions, four in Yerevan. Those in attendance, more than 1,400 citizens, will have a chance to express their opinion on five scenarios of potential developments between Armenia and Turkey. The grantee will summarize and analyze feedback gathered at the THMs and distribute it among key Armenian political figures engaged in the Armenia-Turkey rapprochement process. In this way, the project will inform decision-makers about the attitudes and perceptions of Armenian citizens regarding Armenia-Turkey rapprochement, as well as increasing public understanding of the dialogue currently progressing between the two countries.

Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan National Committee of Helsinki Citizen's Assembly \$10,600.00

Azerbaijan

12/30/08 - 5/31/09

To develop skills and understanding of parliamentary activity and legislative procedures with a group of 45 young leaders from the three countries of the South Caucasus. The project seeks to be effective in establishing cross-border partnerships and networks among emerging young leaders of the South Caucasus, as well as transforming project participants into active proponents of the parliamentary democracy as a viable mechanism for reconciling conflicting interests and expectations of different groups/communities. Additionally, the project seeks to provide a forum for discourse among the participants on issues of common concern. Provided that the workshop is successful, the three partners will arrange for a follow-up workshop for another group of 45 participants from the South Caucasus, which will be followed by a Model Caucasus Parliament session in Strasbourg, France, in the summer 2009.

Belarus

European Humanities University

\$235,302.00

Belarus

6/01/09 - 9/30/10

To support the institutional development of European Humanities University (EHU), a grant will be issued to the University as it solidifies its development function and continues to provide access to exceptional higher education for Belarusian students.

Georgia

Movement for Future Union

\$17,010.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

1/01/09 - 5/31/09

To increase the role of emerging young leaders from Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia in propagating democratic values and positive change in the region of the South Caucasus through raising the youth's knowledge of the values of parliamentary democracy and interest in democratic process, as well as building cross-border networks among young leaders. The three partner organizations will arrange for a 7-day pre-simulation workshop at the Bilgi University of Istanbul, Turkey, to better understand parliamentary work and legislative procedures with a group of 45 young leaders from the three countries of the South Caucasus. The project will be instrumental in establishing cross-border partnerships and networks among emerging young leaders of the South Caucasus, as well as it will turn the project participants into active proponents of the parliamentary democracy.

Dairy Information and Promotion Association

\$86,021.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

3/23/09 - 5/31/10

To contribute to improvement of food standards and safety in Georgia. This project aims to promote Georgian producers of food products, support Georgian producers in meeting EU food safety requirements, and support Georgian government in implementation of food safety law and increase consumer awareness of food safety issues. Expert groups will be formed to develop risk study and risk mitigation actions to be discussed and approved by the relevant government structures. Additionally, they will develop training materials regarding different food safety requirements to be presented and discussed with small and medium size food produces at the national level through a series of seminars in Tbilisi and regions to update existing information regarding small and medium size food producers and making it accessible in print and electronically.

Center for Civil Integration and Inter-ethnic Relations (CCIIR)

\$36,427.57

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

12/15/08 - 7/31/09

To create a sustainable civic resource of proactive citizens in Marneuli (Kvemo Kartli) and Telavi (Kakheti) by establishing civil education resource centers. The grantee will be trained in fundraising, policy dialogue and civic monitoring by EPF partners: the Association of Young Economists of Georgia and the Center for Training and Consultancy. Once operating, the centers will arrange meetings for NGO leaders, interest groups and stakeholders with government officials on issues of local concern, e.g. education, local budget, public services, among others. The centers will also provide trainings to community leaders and engaged citizens in increasing civic and political participation. The centers will closely cooperate with the Office of the Public Defender of Georgia, which will provide technical and logistics support during and after the project. The project expects to provide Kvemo Kartli and Kakheti civic and minority groups with consistent access to a source

of information about raising funds for their projects and proactively engaging in the local decision-making and socio-economic processes.

M Publishing

\$28,249.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

5/01/09 - 4/30/10

To develop Georgian online media resources by creating the web-portal of the popular independent socio-political magazine "Hot Chocolate." The portal aims to increase the number of users of Georgian online editions nationwide and abroad, especially those who do not have access to a printed version of the magazine and other press. This project will contribute to the establishment and development of media skills and knowledge of Georgian audiences. The new portal will also address deficiency of coverage and analysis of tabooed topics in the Georgian online editions and engage citizens in mutual discussions of said topics. The full-scale web-portal of "Hot Chocolate" will contribute to the development of the underdeveloped internet media and online marketing in Georgia, fostering culture of online reading among the readers and help the magazine and the portal to expand their readership.

Centre for Training and Consultancy

\$29,617.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

12/01/08 - 4/15/10

To increase participatory civic monitoring and the accountability of the local governance in Rustavi and Telavi municipalities. The grantee will provide trainings for representatives from the municipalities, CSOs, the mass media, academic institutions and business in public policy planning and analysis in order to promote professional, results-oriented cooperation between local civil society and local authorities. Under the guidance of the grantee, project participants will elaborate policy papers in Rustavi about addressing the problem of unemployment and in Telavi about fixing local infrastructure problems. The projects in Rustavi and Telavi will build capacity, facilitate policy dialogue and create a framework for cooperation between different local stakeholders.

International Center for Civic Culture

\$23,086.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

12/01/08 - 11/20/09

To enhance the effectiveness of civic monitoring carried out by grassroots civil society organizations in Batumi, Samegrelo and Shida Kartli regions. The grantee will create sustainable mechanisms of participatory monitoring. Representatives of approximately 60 grassroots Civil Society Organizations CSOs from various fields will be trained in participatory monitoring using the Guidebook on Civic Monitoring (prepared with EPF funding) and other learning tools. Under the guidance of the trainers, the grassroots CSOs will develop monitoring action plans (covering issues appropriate to their organizations and communities), which will then be implemented in cooperation with the local government. The increased number of CSOs capable of conducting professional and high-profile civic monitoring will promote increased transparency and accountability of local government activities and allow for CSOs to exert greater influence on the local decision-making process.

Institute of Social Studies and Analysis - ISSA

\$38,000.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

6/05/09 - 3/04/10

To develop and implement informational, educational and communication activities to provide adolescents with age-appropriate information about reproductive and sexual health, including the prevention of early pregnancies, safe sex education and the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. Education of youth about reproductive and sexual health will help them develop life skills that will be an especially effective strategy for safeguarding their sexual health and well-being. Knowledge about family planning and information about sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV, will teach young people to make positive choices about their own futures.

Kazakhstan

Public Association Center for the Social Adaptation of Children \$25,544.00

Kazakhstan (Astana)

3/16/09 - 12/16/09

To strengthen and further improve child abandonment prevention and foster care programs in Astana and throughout Kazakhstan. The grantee works to assist foster families and families in vulnerable situations by raising popular awareness of alternative forms of parental care through "hotlines" and the distribution of pamphlets and flyers. Additionally, it increases the professional caliber of specialists in the field working on prevention of child abandonment through trainings and consultations. This program expects to achieve much by the point of completion, including an increase in the number of orphans placed in foster families as well as an increased in number of children who receive social services, coming from at-risk families by improving orphan-related legislation and, by parallel, standards for social services provided to adopted children.

Public Foundation "Perekrestok"

\$14,459.00

Kazakhstan (Kostanay region)

3/16/09 - 12/16/09

To strengthen institutional sustainability of the Center "The Way Home" through developing partnerships with and promoting collaboration between NGOs, media and local government agencies of Kostanay city and Kostanay region. The project implemented a distribution of information materials on social orphan prevention and foster care to the general population, government agencies and partners. It trained practitioners who work with children and at-risk families on child abandonment prevention measures as well as articulating the standards for social services provision to orphans for the new law "On special social services", assisting families and children in difficult life situations as well as increasing the professionalism of Center's staff through participation in local and international seminars.

Public Association "Asyl"

\$5,000.00

Kazakhstan (East Kazakhstan Oblast)

10/24/08 - 10/24/09

To help disabled children in Semei city integrate into their community. The grantee will set up a sensory room to improve motor function, provide social and legal counseling to 300 children and 100 parents, and conduct eight seminars for NGO specialists and parents. The project should result in greater social integration of disabled children, providing a new resource for addressing their physical and psychological needs.

Women's Union of the Ural Region "Umit"

\$13,830.00

Kazakhstan (West-Kazakhstan Oblast)

3/16/09 - 12/16/09

To decrease the rate of child population growing up in institutions through developing alternative forms of parental care and prevention of orphanhood in West-Kazakhstan Oblast. Some of Umit's activities include connecting social orphans with their biological families through information campaigns as well as round tables and consultations on this issue by creating volunteer mobile

groups in Uralsk, Zelenskoy and Akzhaik Regions that work together with NGO "Arna" and NGO "Shuak". The grantee also seeks to establish mentoring programs for orphans growing up in institutions and conducting social orphanage prevention trainings together with the local department of children's rights protection and provide recommendations to Mazhilis for improving legislation pertinent to social orphanage prevention.

Public Association Women's Club "Tomiris"

\$13,850.00

Kazakhstan (Pavlodar Oblast)

3/16/09 - 12/16/09

To improve the quality of life of orphans and to prevent social orphanage in Pavlodar Oblast. Increasing professional level of specialists who work with children and families in difficult life situations. Assisting foster and at-risk families, informing the population regarding social orphanage prevention, through organizing press-conferences, issuing newspaper articles and videos and publishing information on the web-site "To a new family" of the local Department of Children's Rights Protection and developing monitoring and evaluation system for the purpose of improving the quality of services provided by the Center. The program also engages in the strengthening partnerships with local government agencies involved in social orphanage prevention and helping orphans through organizing crafts workshop, and conducting legal trainings.

East-Kazakhstan Oblast association of museum workers

\$19,690.00

Kazakhstan (East Kazakhstan Oblast)

11/25/08 - 9/25/09

To promote artisan development in Eastern Kazakhstan oblast. The grantee will establish a resource center for craftsmen in Ust-Kamenogorsk, which will provide professional training, help find high-quality materials and identify new sales opportunities. The resource center will continuously help local artisans improve the quality of their goods and promote them in the market.

Public Foundation Our Heritage

\$42,709.14

Kazakhstan (Almaty City)

11/25/08 - 9/25/09

To help Kazakhstani artisans improve the quality of their wares. The grantee will help craftspeople develop their own training programs and organize four sets of trainings on embroidery, jewelry and woodwork in Central and Western Kazakhstan. The trainees are expected to improve the quality of their craft wares and more actively participate in local and regional craft markets.

Public Association Center for Initiative Support

\$14,317.00

Kazakhstan

3/16/09 - 12/16/09

To assess the awareness of school teachers of social orphanage prevention and to train specialists who work with children in families in social orphanage prevention measures, organizing family assistance in schools as well as helping in the socialization of children placed in foster families. Additionally, the project aims to train children growing up in institutions in life skills, involving them in social activities. The Association also seeks to strengthen partnerships with local and national governments by participating in the development of standards for social services to orphans for the new law "on special social services". This initiative is looking to facilitate greater self-esteem of

children through the acquisition of new life-skills and improved family relationships in foster families, adopting systems of professional training for specialists who work in social orphanage prevention, increasing the level of funding for these activities.

Kyrgyzstan

Education Network Association Ednet

\$59,192.00

Kyrgyzstan (Bishkek City)

9/02/09 - 7/15/11

The student loan program is aimed at expanding access of prospective students to higher education as well as for potential employers to hiring highly qualified graduates. The program will design a loan system for education, which will be piloted and if implemented successfully, will receive support from the Government of Kyrgyzstan and the private sector. In light of current economic times, many Kyrgyz students cannot afford paying for education. Today, loans are not designed for students and their families who cannot pay the current high interest rates. EFCA will work with credit organizations and partners, EdNet Association and Bishkek Business Club in order to provide support to the program. EFCA will determine professions and educational institutions for their inclusion in the program. Selection will be based on the demand in labor market and the quality of education. In cooperation with credit financial institutions, EFCA will develop selection process for students and examine compatibility of loans with students' needs. Students and businesses will network through trainings and internships. Students will be informed of advantages and risks associated with loans.

Bishkek Business Club PA

\$56,150.00

Kyrgyzstan (Bishkek City)

To assist in giving youth of Kyrgyz Republic an access to education and employment. Activities of the program will include: 1). Development of methodology for educational institutions assessment for selecting potential student loans recipients; 2). Promotion of education loans among students and their parents through information campaigns; 3). Development and introduction of methodology for internship and mentorship program; 4). Conducting training sessions for students on basic skills and knowledge for successful employment; 5). Lectures by employers on employment criteria and requirements (experience, success stories); 6). Conducting a career fair; 7). Study tours for students to big companies to make them familiar with the work process and employment opportunities and study tours for employers to educational institutions to make them familiar with the learning process. As a result of the project activities it's expected that internship and employment opportunities for students will increase; employers' interest in further development of education loans program will also increase; career centers will develop; the capacity of students and graduates to find a job will be strengthened.

Moldova

League for the Defense of Human Rights in Republic of Moldova, LADOM

\$75,244.52

Moldova

11/25/08 - 8/03/09

To promote free and fair elections through oversight of the 2009 parliamentary elections by civil society organizations. The grantee will closely observe election campaigns, the election process itself and the post-election period. The project will work to reduce the likelihood of administrative violations, helping to ensure that the election results are a true reflection of voter intent. It will also encourage civic activism and increase the election monitoring capacity of more than 2,000 long- and short-term observers. The project will benefit from technical assistance provided by National Democratic Institute (NDI). The project is funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi), the British Embassy in Chisinau/ the UK Government Strategic Programme Fund, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and the German Embassy to Moldova.

Independent Journalism Center

\$45,523.72

Moldova

12/22/08 - 6/22/09

To encourage balanced coverage of Moldova's parliamentary election, the IJC will monitor electronic media coverage of the 2009 elections. Additionally, it will closely monitor six TV and four radio stations. The results will be published in bi-weekly reports for domestic and international consumption. The project will independently analyze biased electronic media coverage of the 2009 parliamentary elections and advocate for balanced reporting. The project is co-funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Committee for Freedom of Press

\$14,000.00

Moldova

12/22/08 - 6/12/09

To increase citizens' access to information regarding the upcoming parliamentary elections through special radio programs on the election and electoral debates. The grantee will prepare and broadcast on the BBC radio frequency, 16 civic education programs, 24 electoral debates, rebroadcasting all these radio programs on 10 regional radio stations. The project will reach out to the Moldovan public and the breakaway Transnistrian region, supplying them with balanced information about the 2009 electoral process and the electoral candidates. The project is financially supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

National Assistance and Information Center for NGOs "CONTACT"**\$18,350.71**

Moldova

11/25/08 - 7/25/09

To foster Moldovan citizens' understanding of and participation in the 2009 parliamentary elections, in partnership with other non-governmental actors. The grantee will conduct a nationwide civic education campaign, supporting local NGOs technically and financially in organizing voter education programs at the grass-roots level. The project will foster the involvement of local NGOs in door-to-door campaigns in at least 160 villages in 16 Moldovan districts. The project targets local NGOs, first-time voters and civically passive citizens. The initiative is supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi), the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Center for Analysis and Prevention of Corruption**\$7,117.00**

Moldova

7/08/09 - 9/07/09

To provide free legal assistance to individuals, NGOs, and journalists on election-related issues. The grantee will open a hotline on legal counsel and have lawyers present at appellate proceedings to assist all interested non-partisan groups during the electoral campaign and election day. The project will ensure that breach of law, especially violations of the election code, are reported and settled through appropriate legal means. The project has received financial support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Association of Independent Press**\$11,410.00**

Moldova

12/22/08 - 5/05/09

To comprehensively monitor electoral coverage by 16 national and local news publications. The results will be published in bi-weekly and final reports and presented to domestic and international stakeholders. The project will independently analyze print media coverage of the 2009 parliamentary elections and advocate balanced reporting. The project is co-funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Association of Electronic Press - APEL**\$12,633.00**

Moldova

7/08/09 - 9/07/09

To monitor electronic media coverage of the early parliamentary elections in Moldova July 29, 2009. The grantee will comprehensively monitor nine TV stations, with results published in weekly and final reports and presented to domestic and international stakeholders. The project will independently analyze electronic media coverage of the early parliamentary elections and encourage balanced reporting.

Tajikistan

PU Association Woman and Society

\$36,067.00

Tajikistan

2/01/09 - 3/31/10

To facilitate the free movement of goods across the borders of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, by reducing the difficulties faced by entrepreneurs and shuttle traders, especially women during crossing and engaging in cross-border trade. Project activities will consist of five interrelated stages: survey, capacity building and trainings/workshops, interim assessment, post-project evaluation and elaboration of recommendations. Based on the survey the project implementer will develop recommendations and an action plan for removing administrative and non-administrative barriers for doing cross-border business. Within the framework of the project there will be workshops and trainings on increasing awareness of entrepreneurs (about 400 participants) about procedures of cross-border trade.

Ukraine

Council of Leninskaya Veterans' Organization of Poltava City \$12,443.12

Ukraine (Poltava Oblast)

11/01/08 - 4/14/09

To increase senior citizens' quality of life and access to municipal services. The grantee will establish a senior center at the Lenynskiy district office of social services in the city of Poltava as well as organize activity clubs, host lectures and discussions as well as offering counseling on rehabilitation and social issues to the senior community. As part of EEF's Community Centers for People in Need program, this project is co-funded by Norwegian telecommunications company Telenor with support from the Lenynskiy District Department of Labor and Social Protection.

Pustomyty Rayon Association of People With Disabilities \$13,945.73

Ukraine (Lvov Oblast)

10/15/08 - 3/31/09

To provide job-skill training for the disabled through the creation of an employment information and consultation Center. The grantee will equip and launch the center and, additionally, produce informational materials about its activities. The center will host training sessions on entrepreneurship, sewing, hairdressing, computer and other vocational skills. To facilitate employment, the grantee will create a database of vacancies and job seekers. The project, which is co-funded by Norwegian telecommunications company Telenor, seeks to improve the quality of life for disabled people and provide a model for other cities.

Eidos International Charity Foundation \$6,132.21

Ukraine (Kiev City)

2/01/09 - 3/31/09

To create a website and online store purveying artwork made of used packages by Ukrainian artists. The grantee will foster dialogue on world recycling practices during a series of lectures, as well as placing advertisements in metro stations, distribute fliers and hang posters in universities. The project seeks to make Ukrainian youth more conscious of and responsible for the environment.

Red Cross of Ukraine, Zaporizhia Oblast Organization \$10,978.57

Ukraine (Zaporozhye Oblast)

3/17/09 - 9/17/09

To improve the quality of life and access to social services for senior citizens. The grantee will establish a senior center at the Khortytsky District Office of Social Services in the city of Zaporizhia to organize activity clubs, host lectures and discussions and offer rehabilitation and legal counsel to the senior community. As part of EEF's Community Centers for People in Need program in Zaporizhia, this project is co-funded by Slavutich, Carlsberg Group, with support from Municipal City Services of Social Assistance in Zaporizhia

Zaporizhia City Organization of Veterans of Ukraine \$11,038.96

Ukraine (Zaporozhye Oblast)

3/17/09 - 9/25/09

Designed to improve the quality of life and access to social services for senior citizens. The grantee will establish a senior center at Municipal City Services of Social Assistance in Zaporizhia to

organize activity clubs, host lectures and discussions and offer rehabilitation and legal counsel to the senior community. Part of EEF's Community Centers for People in Need program in Zaporizhia, this project is co-funded by Slavutich, Carlsberg Group with support from Municipal City Services of Social Assistance in Zaporizhia.

Charity AIDS - Service Organization "Shans"

\$29,220.91

Ukraine (Dnepropetrovsk Oblast)

2/01/09 - 9/30/09

To conduct a labor force fortification project aimed at promoting broad access to employment for vulnerable youth and foster public-private partnerships to create job opportunities in the city of Kryvyi Rih. The grantee will conduct three trainings for social workers and one training session at the state employment center to help improve services for orphans. In addition, 60 orphans will take part in an educational program with seven seminars on leadership, life and employment skills. The grantee will publish and disseminate information for vulnerable youth and create a youth coordination committee to serve as a motivational body to stimulate cooperation between NGOs working with vulnerable youth, local government agencies and local employers.

Ternopil Association of Consumers

\$10,296.49

Ukraine (Ternopol Oblast)

3/02/09 - 11/15/09

To provide administrative-reform at the regional level and promote citizen and independent expert participation in the process of administrative-territorial development and implementation. The grantee will form a regional stakeholder group in Ternopil oblast. The grantee will then take an inventory account of community resources in four rayons of the oblast and design an efficient research-based administrative-territorial structure for these rayons. The project results will be discussed with the public during round tables held in the rayons and oblast center and an information campaign will be launched through local media. An analytical brochure with experts' findings and recommendations will be published and disseminated to journalists, experts and local and national governments.

Trostianechchyna Union of Entrepreneurs

\$10,337.92

Ukraine (Sumy Oblast)

3/02/09 – 12/01/09

To provide administrative reform at the regional level and the promote citizen and independent expert participation in the process of administrative-territorial development and implementation. The grantee will form a regional stakeholder group in Sumy oblast, take an inventory account of community resources in four rayons of the oblast, and design an efficient research-based administrative-territorial structure for these rayons. The project results will be discussed with the public during round tables held in the rayons and oblast centers and an information campaign will be launched by way of local media. An analytical brochure with experts' findings and recommendations will be published and disseminated to journalists, experts, and local and national governments. The project is implemented in partnership with the DESPRO project, the Civil Society Institute and funded by the Black Sea Trust.

Association Lviv Tourist Board

\$15,360.64

Ukraine (Lviv Oblast)

7/01/09 - 3/31/10

To improve the quality of life for people with disabilities by creating opportunities for tourism and recreation. The grantee will develop a course on tourism for people with special needs, which will be taught to Lviv-based travel agents during a 3-day seminar, then incorporated into general courses for tour guides. In order to consolidate best practices methods for accommodating people with disabilities in the tourism industry, the grantee will organize an international conference for said topic. The grantee will also design a route that is accessible for those with physical disabilities and prepare the documentation needed to formally lobby for funds, for this initiative, from the local budget.

Historic - Archaeological Charitable Foundation "Millennium Heritage" \$16,590.37

Ukraine (Crimean Autonomous Republic)

9/07/09 - 9/06/10

To promote archeological tourism in Crimea. The grantee will establish a center to develop archeological tourism in the region, compiling an electronic database of archeological sites, developing a website dedicated to archeological tourism in Crimea. The grantee will analyze research results and develop suggestions on tourist routes and excursions for travel agencies, publishing guide books on monuments and routes, advising travel agencies on broadening their services and training 40 tour guides in leading archeological excursions. The grantee will also mobilize students, travel agents, tourists and local residents to clean and improve the areas around monuments. The project is designed to draw wide coverage from the local media and in bringing the region's archeological heritage to the forefront of the local tourism industry and improving the condition of historic sites.

APPENDIX D
NON US GOVERNMENT GRANTS BY COUNTRY
OCTOBER 1, 2008 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2009

Armenia

Community Finance Officers Association

\$19,437.17

Armenia

3/02/09 - 11/22/09

To increase citizens' understanding of the Law on Local Self-Government in Armenia. The grantee will present the responsibilities and functions of local self-government bodies as prescribed by the Law in a straightforward, easy to read, yet comprehensive series of three manuals. The manuals will contain comments to the Law (to be gathered through stakeholder discussions), clarify the responsibilities of heads of municipalities and city council members, and include information on municipal budgeting and interrelations between local and national government authorities. As a result of the project, municipalities and other stakeholders will be provided with a useful tool to sort out ambiguities in the law and to better understand their rights and responsibilities as defined by the law.

Yerevan State Linguistic University after Brusov NCSO

\$14,406.56

Armenia

4/01/09 - 12/31/09

To improve mechanisms of employment through internship programs. The grantee, Yerevan State Linguistic University, will establish a model internship program. The grantee will create and maintain a database of potential placements and students interested in the program, set up summer internships for selected students, conduct workshops and trainings for employers and future interns, and organize career trips for interns. This project's intends to develop a new mechanism of employing students and graduates of one of Yerevan's major universities through the provision of valuable information on the job market in Armenia.

Azerbaijan

Gender Association "Symmetry"

\$12,589.00

Azerbaijan (Astara, Masally)

11/28/08 - 3/27/09

To enhance the leadership capacity of prominent women of faith-based community organizations in Masally and Astara regions and increase their involvement in local civil society. The grantee will conduct a series of interactive trainings for 40 religious female activists providing instruction in leadership, confidence building, communications skills, and community-based organizational management with regard to the key gender-related issues. Relevant booklets and outreach materials illuminating best practices and compatibility between religious communities and civil society will also be developed throughout the project and disseminated among the target group and the community-at large. Publications of articles in local newspapers will increase knowledge of gender issues and raise awareness of women in targeted regions.

Youth for Development Social Union

\$12,332.32

Azerbaijan (Zaqatala Region)

11/28/08 - 3/27/09

To increase interaction between faith-based community groups and civil society organizations through the provision of legal assistance and tolerance training in the sensitive Zaqatala Region. This organization will develop collateral materials illuminating regulatory procedures for registration and dispensation of legal assistance and training to unregistered faith-based religious groups wishing to be officially acknowledged by the state. Employing the services of an expert faith rights attorney and regionally-based representatives, individual consultations will be conducted with faith-based community groups and trainings will convene using the aforementioned collateral materials. As a result of the project, faith-based organizations in the Zaqatala Region will gain invaluable legal information and support while learning new techniques in promoting cultural dialog and tolerance.

Azerbaijan National Committee of Helsinki Citizen's Assembly

\$10,600.00

Azerbaijan

12/30/08 - 5/31/09

To develop skills and understanding of parliamentary activity and legislative procedures with a group of 45 young leaders from the three countries of the South Caucasus. The project seeks to be effective in establishing cross-border partnerships and networks among emerging young leaders of the South Caucasus. Additionally, it serves to transform project participants into active proponents of the parliamentary democracy as a viable mechanism for reconciling conflicting interests and expectations of different groups/communities. The project seeks to provide a forum for discourse among the participants on issues of common concern. Provided that the workshop is successful, the three partners will arrange for a follow-up workshop for another group of 45 participants from the South Caucasus, which will be followed by a Model Caucasus Parliament session in Strasbourg, France, in the summer 2009.

Belarus

European Humanities University

\$235,302.00

Belarus

6/01/09 - 9/30/10

To support the institutional development of European Humanities University (EHU), a grant will be issued to the University as it solidifies its development function and continues to provide access to exceptional higher education for Belarusian students.

Business Union of Entrepreneurs and Employers

\$68,615.00

Belarus

12/01/08 - 10/31/10

To promote small and medium business in the regions of Belarus. The grantee will increase professional capacity of small and medium businesses in the regions by providing training and individual consultations to existing and prospective entrepreneurs. The project will also facilitate dialogue between business and local authorities by organizing public discussions and round tables with representatives of business and various government bodies, and d in turn, advocating for a more efficient regulatory environment.

Georgia

Center for Civil Integration and Inter-ethnic Relations (CCIIR) \$36,427.57

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

12/15/08 - 7/31/09

To create a sustainable civic resource of proactive citizens in Marneuli (Kvemo Kartli) and Telavi (Kakheti) by establishing civil education resource centers. The grantee will be trained in fundraising, policy dialogue and civic monitoring by EPF partners: the Association of Young Economists of Georgia and the Center for Training and Consultancy. Once operating, the centers will arrange meetings for NGO leaders, interest groups and stakeholders with government officials on issues of local concern, e.g. education, local budget, public services, among others. The centers will also provide trainings to community leaders and engaged citizens in increasing civic and political participation. The centers will closely cooperate with the Office of the Public Defender of Georgia, which will provide technical and logistics support during and after the project. The project expects to provide Kvemo Kartli and Kakheti civic and minority groups with consistent access to a source of information about raising funds for their projects and proactively engaging in the local decision-making and socio-economic processes.

Gori Regional Education Fund

\$7,550.00

Georgia (Kartli)

3/10/09 - 11/16/09

To transform the young people of Gori into active community members and enable them to politically represent their communities and play an active role in solving their community's problems. The grantee will provide intense training and education to the students of Gori University about the fundamental issues of civil society, community mobilization, leadership and civic advocacy. The project will enable and encourage the participants to create new community based organizations with the skills to raise funds for implementing small community projects, share best practices and experiences with coevals and enhance their civil integration. The project will help victims of the 2008 Russo-Georgian war cope with the post-conflict problems. The project was financed within the EPF Open Door Grant program, aimed at assisting the civil sector in and around the conflict zones, in overcoming post-conflict problems.

Union "Svaneti Tourism Center"

\$20,963.00

Georgia

5/15/09 - 2/14/10

To attract tourists to selected villages of Upper Svaneti region by facilitating sustainable and safe tourism development. The grantee - the Svaneti Tourism Center - will implement a nine-month project to develop tourism infrastructure and services by providing seminars and trainings for local guesthouse owners and preparing guides and rescuers. In addition, a special guide-book for rescuers will be prepared and published in the Georgian language. Information about involved guesthouse owners, guides and rescuers will be placed on the Center's website and disseminated among tour operators. In the long run, the project will contribute to improving the socio-economic situation of the local population through their involvement in income generating activities.

Association for Environment Protection and Sustainable Development "Mta-B \$36,610.00

Georgia

4/15/09 - 8/14/10

To implement a 16-month project, which aims at supporting ecologically, economically and socially oriented sustainable use of resources and creating alternative means of income in the villages of Mtskheta National Park and its nearby territory, which covers 3 districts of the Autonomous Republic

of Adjara: Kobuleti, Khelvachauri and Keda. The project foresees involving 100 farm families in cultivation and marketing development of economically important and endangered indigenous species of Adjara wild flora - *Galanthus woronowii* and *Cyclamen coum* controlled by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Movement for Future Union

\$17,010.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

1/01/09 - 5/31/09

To increase the role of emerging young leaders from Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia in propagating democratic values and positive change in the region of the South Caucasus through raising the youth's knowledge of the values of parliamentary democracy and interest in democratic process, as well as building cross-border networks among young leaders. The three partner organizations will arrange for a 7-day pre-simulation workshop at the Bilgi University of Istanbul, Turkey, to better understand parliamentary work and legislative procedures with a group of 45 young leaders from the three countries of the South Caucasus. The project will be instrumental in establishing cross-border partnerships and networks among emerging young leaders of the South Caucasus, as well as it will turn the project participants into active proponents of parliamentary democracy.

Association Studio Re

\$42,229.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

12/15/08 - 11/14/09

To open a discussion on Georgia's integration into European structures and raise awareness about the European Neighborhood Policy. The project envisages communicating information about the EU and its relations with its neighbors through TV discussions. The project will prepare 10 TV programs communicating to the wider Georgian public about EU structures, policies, countries, cultures and economic development. Journalists will work in different regions to highlight relevant issues such as Georgian commitment to the European Neighborhood Policy. The grantee, "Studio RE" will conduct two-day training for regional journalists to present the project and discuss the issues that are to be highlighted in the TV programs. The project will involve 19 regional channels and their journalists, helping them obtain greater access to information for remote communities, activate regional journalist to work on European issues, increase their capacity-building via TV programs.

Association "Youth Development Center"

\$11,746.00

Georgia (Kartli)

1/15/09 - 11/30/09

To increase access of youth IDPs, from the Russian- Georgian war affected territories of Gori District, to income generating resources by means of a skill- and capacity-building program. The project will provide 40 youth IDPs both with an opportunity for generating instant cash income and will prepare them for longer term opportunities to sustaining themselves. Through the series of handicraft trainings, the target group of young people will acquire skills that will enable them to produce handicraft production for selling. The project will connect the target group with local relevant businesses to sustain their sources of income in the future. Overall, the project will improve the living conditions of the young displaced persons and their families and will support their reintegration in the society.

International Center for Social Research and Policy Analysis \$27,408.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City) 2/10/09 - 12/10/09

To promote the principles of a knowledge-based economy at higher education centers of Georgia. The grantee – the International Center for Social Research and Policy Analysis (ICSRPA), will conduct a SWOT analysis to assess the Georgian education sector in terms of its status as a knowledge-based economy and advocate best practices from other countries that have successfully converted to a knowledge-based economic framework. The grantee will work specifically with two Georgian universities in its assessment and awareness raising activities and create a space for networking and sharing best practices to facilitate the establishment of a knowledge-based economy in Georgia.

Center of Democracy and Civil Integration \$2,996.15

Georgia (Tbilisi City) 11/24/08 - 3/31/09

To develop intercultural awareness and facilitate greater tolerance and understanding of the needs of minorities in Tbilisi. As a result of the recent political and economic challenges in the country, there has been a steady increase in religious, ethnic and cultural tensions in Georgia. There have been cases when fundamental human rights have come under direct assault. Intolerance is very often rooted in ignorance and fear of other cultures, nations and religions. For these reasons, the project interventions place great emphasis on educating the target group of young agents of change (30 students selected from 5 schools of Tbilisi) about tolerance, human rights, multiculturalism and religious and cultural diversity. The project team will train a core group of secondary school students as agents of change, who will communicate the key project messages to a wider community and act as long term catalysts of social change in their respective communities.

Batumi Youth Bank \$1,779.78

Georgia (Ajaria) 12/01/08 - 4/10/09

To open up opportunities for participation of young people in decision making and mobilization of resources around the important challenges faced by youth of Adjara. As a result of community needs assessment, Batumi Youth Bank will address the lack of opportunities for involvement in sports and inadequate conditions for receiving quality education.

Dairy Information and Promotion Association \$86,021.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City) 3/23/09 - 5/31/10

To contribute to improvement of food standards and safety in Georgia. This project aims to promote Georgian producers of food products, support Georgian producers in meeting EU food safety requirements, and support Georgian government in implementation of food safety law and increase consumer awareness of food safety issues. Expert groups will be formed to develop a risk study and risk mitigation actions to be discussed and approved by the relevant government structures. Additionally, they will develop training materials regarding different food safety requirements. The requirements will be presented and discussed with small and medium size food producers at the national level through a series of seminars in Tbilisi and regions. It will also update existing information regarding small and medium size food producers and making it accessible in print and electronically.

Wild Plant Conservation Association (WPCA) \$29,477.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City) 3/25/09 - 9/24/10

To develop ways to protect two economically important plant species - Cyclamen vernum Sweet and Galanthus woronowii Losinsk. The grantee will work to conserve the two species ex-situ [off site]

by creating natural collections and a seed bank. Ex-situ conservation is the most important and affordable method of maintaining biodiversity, which can be implemented by botanic institutions on their territory, creating "reserve supplies" of the natural collection. Additionally, the public will have an opportunity to get seedlings or seeds from WPCA for further re-production of the above-mentioned species with the intent of using them for commercial purposes – selling them locally or exporting them for commerce in the global market.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature Program Office for Southern Caucasus

\$75,268.64

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

3/23/09 - 11/23/10

To improve stakeholder participation in the protected areas of Georgia. The project supports the APA in developing and piloting Terms of Reference for newly established Protected Area Advisory Boards, creating additional participation mechanisms (Associations of Friends of Protected Areas, Junior Ranger Programs) in three protected areas (Lagodekhi, Tusheti and Vashlovani). By establishing these mechanisms, the project will increase local ownership of protected areas (PAs) and use the skills, knowledge and commitment of stakeholders for the benefit of the pilot PAs, making them more effective tools for biodiversity conservation, livelihood support and sustainable economic use.

Biological Farming Association Elkana

\$56,352.36

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

6/01/09 - 2/04/11

To reduce the negative impact of agriculture on the environment in the Samtskhe-Javakheti Region and preserve local agricultural biodiversity by introducing the sustainable use of endemic species. The grantee, Elkana, will work with local farmers to introduce and promote the principles of bio-farming in Samtskhe-Javakheti and re-introduce the wheat variety known as Tsiteli Doli: a sturdy, endemic form of wheat. In cooperation with Begeli, a local bread producer, Elkana will popularize the use of Tsiteli Doli in bread baking, increasing demand for the wheat. The project will result in improved socio-economic conditions for the farmers in Samtskhe-Javakheti.

Georgian Tourism Association GTA

\$47,789.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

3/23/09 - 11/30/09

To facilitate market-oriented, participatory sustainable tourism for Protected Areas (PA) of Georgia in Lagodekhi, Algeti and Kintrishi. The grantee will offer a seven-month project through the Eco Awards Program 2009. Through this project, the grantee will provide workshops for local community representatives on product development and services including accommodation, catering, among others, for both international and Georgian visitors. The association also works to raise the profile of the Protected Areas, including information about accommodation quality. The project will work with the Algeti PA, which is considered the least developed PA in Georgia. Creation of guesthouse data bank and booking facilities will increase access to information for potential visitors. The project is carried out in partnership with the Agency of Protected Areas (APA).

Guarantor of Welfare for Disabled People

\$13,807.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

5/19/09 - 9/19/09

To increase the social integration of blind and visually impaired people, this project aims to provide books in alternative formats to four public libraries in Shida Kartli. The grantee - Guarantor of Welfare for Disabled - will increase the autonomy and independence of blind and vision impaired people by providing them with access to audio books that do not require an intermediary for

reading. The project will target 1,500 blind and vision impaired people in Shida Kartli. Four public libraries in Gori, Kaspi, Kareli and Khashuri will be equipped with the resources to improve visually impaired people's access to previously unavailable audio books.

Kakhetis Khma

\$26,468.83

Georgia (Kakheti)

12/01/08 - 9/30/09

To promote citizen oversight on the spending of the central budget transfers and subsidies allocated to the Kakheti Region for implementation of the "Vintage-2008" program. After receiving training in covering budgetary issues, the grantee will undertake journalistic investigations of the local budget spending for the target program and cover the issue in a designated newspaper section. The project will increase the role of the local media in participatory civic monitoring in the region, enhancing the capacity of the newspaper's journalists to cover fiscal issues, including the budget and create an environment for increased citizen participation in the local decision-making process.

Association of Georgian Women Journalists - 1991

\$24,060.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

5/01/09 - 4/30/10

To promote the independence and professionalism of Georgian media outlets to serve as proactive civic actors by developing modern theory and practice of journalistic investigation. The grantee will develop and publish a comprehensive, up-to-date manual on the modern theory and practice of journalistic investigation for the Georgian media community with learning material about investigative journalism techniques adjusted to the local realities. During the second stage, the project will train 70 journalists from Tbilisi and six regions of Georgia about the theory and practice of journalistic investigation. The grantee will follow-up with the trainees in conducting minor investigations of various cases, continuing even after the lifespan of the project.

Union "SIQA - Georgian Association of Educational Initiatives"

\$30,319.00

Georgia (Kartli)

1/15/09 - 7/14/09

To help children and adolescents overcome psychological pressure as a result of the recent Russia-Georgia conflict and promote an educational philosophy and practice that inspires and develops positive values in the secondary schools of the conflict affected areas. The grantee will encourage educators to look at education as an opportunity to provide students with a philosophy of living, thereby facilitating overall growth and development of children and youth. The grantee will also support participants in developing educational plans that incorporate acquired theoretical material into their teaching methodology.

Medical Workers Initiative

\$21,400.00

Georgia (Imereti)

3/10/09 - 5/09/10

To increase IDPs' access to quality medical services in the Imereti region, the grantee will monitor the implementation of the state's medical programs established for the improvement of medical services provided to patients from the IDP collection center in Kutaisi (310 IDPs). The project will be implemented in cooperation with local CSOs and will enhance the capacity of the target IDP community to advocate for their healthcare needs, improve the quality and increase the breadth of services provided by the municipal medical service. The project will create a local Coordination Consultative Center for Protection of Patients' Rights, which will become a public resource for advocacy and monitoring. Through these activities the project will improve the degree of citizen participation in the region, increase the accountability of local authorities and enhance IDPs' access to higher quality medical services.

Union "Georgian-Abkhazian mixed families"**\$43,671.00**

Georgia (Samegrelo)

6/01/09 - 7/27/10

To further the rebuilding of confidence and tolerance between the Georgians and Abkhazians after the August 2008 war through the restoration of relations between the mixed Georgian-Abkhaz families separated by the conflict. The project will assist both Georgian and Abkhaz nationals living in the temporarily separated territories to identify problems jointly and find common solutions to these problems through meetings, discussions and training. The project's target beneficiaries are 204 identified representatives of Georgian-Abkhaz mixed families. The project will reveal new civic leaders among the mixed families through issue-relevant trainings.

Foundation for Development of Human Resource**\$34,890.00**

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

6/01/09 - 5/31/10

To facilitate and expedite the civil re-integration of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from South Ossetia by imbuing them with knowledge and skills for self-employment and job placement. The project targets 165 IDPs from the collective center in Tserovani. The participants will receive training in various efficient methods of integration, including job placement in a complex and competitive labor market. Twelve IDPs with strong leadership and communication skills will deliver the training after personally undergoing training through the project. The project will create opportunities for IDPs to overcome isolation, poverty and social indifference with 10,000 IDPs indirectly benefiting from the training. The project will create a resource for information about civic integration and job seeking methods for IDPs which can be replicated in other regions of Georgia. Additionally, the project will contribute to the institutionalization of the CEFÉ training program in Georgia.

M Publishing**\$28,249.00**

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

5/01/09 - 4/30/10

To develop Georgian online media resources by creating the web-portal of the popular independent socio-political magazine "Hot Chocolate." The portal aims to increase the number of users of Georgian online editions nationwide and abroad, especially those who do not have access to a printed version of the magazine and other press. This project will contribute to the establishment and development of media skills and knowledge of Georgian audiences. The new portal will also address deficiency of coverage and analysis of tabooed topics in the Georgian online editions and engage citizens in mutual discussions of said topics. The full-scale web-portal of "Hot Chocolate" will contribute to the development of the underdeveloped internet media and online marketing in Georgia, fostering culture of online reading among the readers and help the magazine and the portal to expand their readership.

Taso Foundation**\$30,860.00**

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

5/10/09 - 5/09/10

To empower female victims of war in the battle-front community Karaleti with a population of 4,118 in overcoming post-war problems and assisting peer communities. Taso develops their leadership capacity to become greater advocates of citizens' interests, rights and gender equality. The project plans to establish the women's center for social responsibility within the Karaleti Village Administration's Office building, which apart from its direct frame work, will serve as a meeting place for discussion of acute problems of the community, hosting seminars with civic groups, governmental agencies and donors for planning community development projects, educational sessions and other issues of concern to the community.

Liberty Institute

\$36,539.60

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

10/20/08 - 6/30/09

To conduct a series of trainings in participatory budgeting and management and raise awareness among school stakeholders of their rights and responsibilities to get involved in school governance. The major stakeholders and target group of the project are school principals, school board trustees and parents selected from 40 participating schools actively participating in the budget formation process. The project will help ethnic minority communities become experienced in working with school authorities and engage them in decision-making activity, thus increasing integration process of minorities in Georgia's social and economic processes.

Centre for Training and Consultancy

\$29,617.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

12/01/08 - 4/15/10

To increase participatory civic monitoring and the accountability of the local governance in Rustavi and Telavi municipalities. The grantee will provide trainings for representatives from the municipalities, CSOs, the mass media, academic institutions and business in public policy planning and analysis in order to promote professional, results-oriented cooperation between local civil society and local authorities. Under the guidance of the grantee, project participants will elaborate policy papers in Rustavi about addressing the problem of unemployment and in Telavi about fixing local infrastructure problems. The projects in Rustavi and Telavi will build capacity, facilitate policy dialogue and create a framework for cooperation between different local stakeholders.

International Center for Civic Culture

\$23,086.00

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

12/01/08 - 11/20/09

To enhance the effectiveness of civic monitoring carried out by grassroots civil society organizations in Batumi, Samegrelo and Shida Kartli regions. The grantee will create sustainable mechanisms of participatory monitoring. Representatives of approximately 60 grassroots Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) from various fields will be trained in participatory monitoring using the Guidebook on Civic Monitoring (prepared with EPF funding) and other learning tools. Under the guidance of the trainers, the grassroots CSOs will develop monitoring action plans (covering issues appropriate to their organizations and communities), which will then be implemented in cooperation with the local government. The increased number of CSOs capable of conducting professional and high-profile civic monitoring will promote increased transparency and accountability of local government activities and allow for CSOs to exert greater influence on the local decision-making process.

Akhaltsikhe Youth Bank

\$1,919.00

Georgia (Samtskhe-Javakheti)

12/01/08 - 4/06/09

Akhaltsikhe Youth Bank initiative group has announced micro grants competition for the youth of Samtskhe Javakheti Region, aged 16 to 25, to open up opportunities for participation of young people in decision making and mobilization of resources around the important challenges faced by youth of Samtskhe Javakheti. According to the results of a community needs assessment, Akhaltsikhe Youth Bank has identified priorities of providing for the lack of opportunities in athletic engagement and ecological problems, such as pollution of the environment.

Marneuli Youth Bank**\$2,177.00**

Georgia (Kartli)

12/01/08 - 4/07/09

Marneuli Youth Bank initiative group has announced a micro grants competition for the youth of Marneuli District, aged 16 to 25, to open opportunities for participation of young people in decision making and mobilization of resources around the important challenges faced by youth of Marneuli District. As a result of community needs assessment, Marneuli Youth Bank has identified ecological problems and lack of opportunities for involvement in sports as main priorities. As a result of the competition, Marneuli Youth Bank has solicited 26 applications, out of which 14 were shortlisted for the interview and five have been selected for funding.

Zugdidi Youth Bank**\$1,255.20**

Georgia (Samegrelo)

12/12/08 - 6/20/09

Zugdidi Youth Bank initiative group has announced a micro grants competition for the youth (aged 16-25) of Samegrelo Region to open up the opportunities for participation of young people in decision making and mobilization of resources around the important challenges faced by youth of Samegrelo. As a result of community needs assessment Zugdidi Youth Bank is focused on two important priorities: poor environmental conditions and the psychological consequences of Russian-Georgian war of Augusts, 2008.

Institute of Social Studies and Analysis - ISSA**\$38,000.00**

Georgia (Tbilisi City)

6/05/09 - 3/04/10

To develop and implement informational, educational and communication activities to provide adolescents with age-appropriate information about reproductive and sexual health, including the prevention of early pregnancies, safe sex education and the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. Education of youth about reproductive and sexual health will help them develop life skills that will be an especially effective strategy for safeguarding their sexual health and well-being. Knowledge about family planning and information about sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV, will teach young people to make positive choices about their own futures.

Kazakhstan

Public Association Center for the Social Adaptation of Children \$25,544.00

Kazakhstan (Astana)

3/16/09 - 12/16/09

To strengthen and further improve child abandonment prevention and foster care programs in Astana and throughout Kazakhstan. The grantee works to assist foster families and families in vulnerable situations by raising popular awareness of alternative forms of parental care through "hotlines" and the distribution of pamphlets and flyers. Additionally, it increases the professional caliber of specialists in the field working on prevention of child abandonment through trainings and consultations. This program expects to achieve much by the point of completion, including an increase in the number of orphans placed in foster families as well as an increased in number of children who receive social services, coming from at-risk families by improving orphan-related legislation and, by parallel, standards for social services provided to adopted children.

Public Foundation "Perekrestok" \$14,459.00

Kazakhstan (Kostanay region)

3/16/09 - 12/16/09

To strengthen institutional sustainability of the Center "The Way Home" through developing partnerships with and promoting collaboration between NGOs, media and local government agencies of Kostanay city and Kostanay region. The project implemented a distribution of information materials on social orphandom prevention and foster care to the general population, government agencies and partners. It trained practitioners who work with children and at-risk families on child abandonment prevention measures as well as articulating the standards for social services provision to orphans for the new law "On special social services", assisting families and children in difficult life situations as well as increasing the professionalism of Center's staff through participation in local and international seminars.

Public Association "Asyl" \$5,000.00

Kazakhstan (East Kazakhstan Oblast)

10/24/08 - 10/24/09

To help disabled children in Semei city integrate into their community. The grantee will set up a sensory room to improve motor function, provide social and legal counseling to 300 children and 100 parents, and conduct eight seminars for NGO specialists and parents. The project should result in greater social integration of disabled children, providing a new resource for addressing their physical and psychological needs.

Women's Union of the Ural Region "Umit" \$13,830.00

Kazakhstan (West-Kazakhstan Oblast)

3/16/09 - 12/16/09

To decrease the rate of children growing up in institutions through developing alternative forms of parental care and prevention of orphandom in West-Kazakhstan oblast. Some of Umit's activities include connecting social orphans with their biological families through information campaigns as well as round tables and consultations on this issue by creating volunteer mobile groups in Uralsk, Zelenskoy and Akzhaik Regions that work together with NGO "Arna" and NGO "Shuak". The grantee also seeks to establish mentoring programs for orphans growing up in institutions and conducting social orphanage prevention trainings together with the local department of children's rights protection and provide recommendations to Mazhilis for improving legislation pertinent to social orphanage prevention.

Public Association Women's Club "Tomiris"

\$13,850.00

Kazakhstan (Pavlodar Oblast)

3/16/09 - 12/16/09

To improve the quality of life of orphans and to prevent social orphanage in Pavlodar Oblast. Increasing professional level of specialists who work with children and families in difficult life situations. Goals are to assist foster and at-risk families, informing the population regarding social orphanage prevention, issuing newspaper articles and videos and publishing information on the web-site "To a new family" of the local Department of Children's Rights Protection and developing monitoring and evaluation system for the purpose of improving the quality of services provided by the Center. The program also engages in the strengthening partnerships with local government agencies involved in social orphanage prevention and helping orphans through organizing crafts workshop, and conducting legal trainings.

Public Association Center for Initiative Support

\$14,317.00

Kazakhstan

3/16/09 - 12/16/09

To assess the awareness of school teachers of social orphanage prevention and to train specialists who work with children in families in social orphanage prevention measures, organizing family assistance in schools as well as helping in the socialization of children placed in foster families. Additionally, the project aims to train children growing up in institutions in life skills, involving them in social activities. The Association also seeks to strengthen partnerships with local and national governments by participating in the development of standards for social services to orphans for the new law "on special social services". This initiative is looking to facilitate greater self-esteem of children through the acquisition of new life-skills and improved family relationships in foster families, adopting systems of professional training for specialists who work in social orphanage prevention, increasing the level of funding for these activities.

East-Kazakhstan Oblast Association of Museum Workers

\$19,690.00

Kazakhstan (East Kazakhstan Oblast)

11/25/08 - 9/25/09

To promote artisan development in Eastern Kazakhstan oblast. The grantee will establish a resource center for craftsmen in Ust-Kamenogorsk, which will provide professional training, help find high-quality materials and identify new sales opportunities. The resource center will continuously help local artisans improve the quality of their goods and promote them in the market.

Public Foundation Our Heritage

\$42,709.14

Kazakhstan (Almaty City)

11/25/08 - 9/25/09

To help Kazakhstani artisans improve the quality of their wares. The grantee will help craftspeople develop their own training programs and organize four sets of trainings on embroidery, jewelry and woodwork in Central and Western Kazakhstan. The trainees are expected to improve the quality of their craft wares and more actively participate in local and regional craft markets.

Public Foundation "Local Community Foundation"

\$5,842.00

Kazakhstan (Almaty Oblast)

10/15/08 - 1/19/09

To support the institutional development of the Enbekshikazakh Community Foundation. The foundation's staff will be trained on fundraising and administering information campaigns. The project will promote local philanthropy and increase the capacity of the foundation.

Kyrgyz Republic

PF "Centre for Forecasting and Social Information"

\$19,496.75

Kyrgyzstan

10/07/08 - 5/16/09

To establish a state policy to improve social and economic conditions for returning labor migrants. The grantee will bring together efforts of six NGOs working in the area of labor migration and conduct round tables and public hearings in seven oblasts. It is expected that recommendations on improving social and economic basis for returning migrants will, in turn, be created.

Moldova

Public Organization NISTRU BANKS

\$4,446.00

Moldova (Trandnestria)

10/01/08 - 3/28/09

To increase civic and voter participation in the village of Molovata Noua and its five surrounding villages in the Dubasari district. The grantee will disseminate informational booklets and leaflets and conduct five seminars on issues of civic and voter education. The project will increase awareness of the importance of elections in a democratic society and boost voter turnout for the 2009 parliamentary elections. This project is supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and USAID.

Association of Citizens with Initiative

\$5,217.00

Moldova

10/01/08 - 5/31/09

To encourage a strong turnout in Moldova's 2009 parliamentary elections. The grantee seeks to educate and mobilize the population of Cantemir district and in particular its young voters to become more active participants in the political process. A core group of 20 youth leaders will organize a voter information campaign in four selected villages and towns. The project will lead to, among other things, the publication of a campaign flyer with the slogan "Make Your Choice" on the front. The project will also organize two voter education discos, and a door-to-door voter turnout campaign. These activities are expected to stimulate citizen engagement in the election process and increase voter turnout in the target region. This initiative is supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and USAID.

Congaz Center of Civic Initiatives

\$3,239.00

Moldova (Gagauz ATO)

11/01/08 - 4/10/09

To increase youth participation in the 2009 parliamentary elections. The grantee will provide training in communication and voter education techniques to youth leaders in the village of Congaz. The project will establish a network of educated and active young volunteers who will foster a participatory culture among local youth, as well as increase young-voter attendance in the region. The project is funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and USAID.

Union of Young Roma from Moldova "Tarna Rom"

\$6,806.08

Moldova

10/01/08 - 3/31/09

To encourage Roma Moldovans to take active part in their country's 2009 parliamentary elections. The grantee will seek to improve the leadership capacities of Roma activists, educate Roma women on political processes and establish dialogue between Roma and political parties. These objectives will be accomplished through a targeted information campaign, training activities and election observation efforts. The project will devote special attention to addressing cultural obstacles Roma women face in establishing a voice in patriarchal Roma communities. As a result of this initiative, the grantee will develop a network of Roma leaders serving as point people in their respective communities, leading to the increased participation of Roma in Moldovan political life. This project is supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and USAID.

League for the Defense of Human Rights in Republic of Moldova, LADOM**\$75,244.52**

Moldova

11/25/08 - 8/03/09

To promote free and fair elections through oversight of the 2009 parliamentary elections by civil society organizations. The grantee will closely observe election campaigns, the election process itself and the post-election period. The project will work to reduce the likelihood of administrative violations, helping to ensure that the election results are a true reflection of voter intent. It will also encourage civic activism and increase the election monitoring capacity of more than 2,000 long- and short-term observers. The project will benefit from technical assistance provided by National Democratic Institute (NDI). The project is funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi), the British Embassy in Chisinau/ the UK Government Strategic Programme Fund, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and the German Embassy to Moldova.

Partnership for Development Center**\$10,695.91**

Moldova

12/22/08 - 8/28/09

To develop and promote a gender equality code of conduct for political parties and media during the 2009 parliamentary elections. The grantee will monitor the parliamentary elections from a gender perspective, helping to identify future challenges and prospects for mainstreaming gender parity in electoral processes. The project is financially supported by the Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (Sida/Asdi), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Soros-Moldova Foundation, and the OSCE Mission to Moldova.

Independent Journalism Center**\$45,523.72**

Moldova

12/22/08 - 6/22/09

To encourage a balanced coverage of Moldova's parliamentary election, the IJC will monitor electronic media coverage of the 2009 elections. Additionally, it will closely monitor six TV and four radio stations. The results will be published in bi-weekly reports for domestic and international consumption. The project will independently analyze biased electronic media coverage of the 2009 parliamentary elections and advocate for balanced reporting. The project is co-funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

National Youth Council of Moldova**\$10,000.00**

Moldova

11/25/08 - 6/15/09

To foster a greater understanding of the issues and electoral participation among Moldovan citizens with respect to the 2009 election. In conjunction with other NGOs, the grant recipient will conduct a nationwide get-out-the-vote campaign, including trainings and workshops, a door-to-door information campaign, and the distribution of promotional materials. The project will work with youth, women, minority ethnic groups and the unemployed. The initiative is financially supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi), the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

AO Pro Lex**\$2,980.00**

Moldova

3/09/09 - 5/09/09

To politically engage the youth of Moldova, regarding the country's 2009 parliamentary election. This organization will train first-time voters, conduct a one voter education disco and disseminate voter education materials. An opinion poll with young people will be conducted after the elections

to measure the effect of the project. The project is financially supported by Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Committee for Freedom of Press

\$14,000.00

Moldova

12/22/08 - 6/12/09

To increase citizens' access to information regarding the upcoming parliamentary elections through special radio programs on the election and electoral debates. The grantee will prepare and broadcast on the BBC radio frequency 16 civic education programs, 24 electoral debates, rebroadcasting all these radio programs on 10 regional radio stations. The project will reach out to the Moldovan public and the breakaway Transnistrian region, supplying them with balanced information about the 2009 electoral process and the electoral candidates. The project is financially supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

National Assistance and Information Center for NGOs "CONTACT"

\$18,350.71

Moldova

11/25/08 - 7/25/09

To foster Moldovan citizens' understanding of and participation in the 2009 parliamentary elections, in partnership with other non-governmental actors. The grantee will conduct a nation-wide civic education campaign, supporting local NGOs technically and financially in organizing voter education programs at the grass-roots level. The project will foster the involvement of local NGOs in door-to-door campaigns in at least 160 villages in 16 Moldovan districts. The project targets local NGOs, first-time voters and civically passive citizens. The initiative is supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi), the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Independent Daily "TIMPUL de Dimineata"

\$14,998.00

Moldova

10/27/08 - 3/20/09

To enhance public awareness of European integration issues, EU institutions, policies and standards and Moldovan-EU relations, as well as to present different perspectives on these issues to the public. The grantee will produce a monthly newspaper insert "European Integration Step by Step" containing reports, analysis and interviews on European affairs and the progress of the EU-Moldova Action Plan. The grantee will also promote dialogue between government, media and NGOs through public and expert debates. This project is supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and USAID.

Association of Parents and Teachers from Drepcauti Village

\$2,880.00

Moldova (Edinet District)

12/10/08 - 1/31/09

To assist the school in the village of Drepcauti in repairing damages caused by the floods in summer 2008. The grantee will equip the school cafeteria with new tables and chairs. This project is supported by Philip Morris Management Services B.V. Representative Office in Moldova.

Vadul Nistrului AO

\$2,960.00

Moldova (Chisinau District)

12/10/08 - 1/31/09

To support the Gura Bicului community, flooded in the summer of 2008, in repairing the flood's damage. The grantee will repair a portion of a water pipe that is connected to the local school, kindergarten and adjacent households. This initiative will ensure villagers have running water,

creating better living and hygienic conditions. This project is supported by Philip Morris Management Services B.V. Representative Office in Moldova.

Curier-Prosper AO

\$3,000.00

Moldova (Edinet District)

12/10/08 - 1/31/09

To support a children's art school in the village of Lipcani in repairing damages caused by the floods in the summer of 2008. The grantee will repair and furnish the premises of the painting school in Lipcani, creating a modern, well-equipped environment for students. This project is supported by Philip Morris Management Services B.V. Representative Office in Moldova.

Association of Parents and Teachers from Trifauti Village

\$3,000.00

Moldova (Soroca District)

12/10/08 - 2/15/09

To support a school in the village of Trifauti in repairing damages incurred during the floods of summer 2008. The grantee, in cooperation with the school administration, will replace old windows and partially renovate the premises, creating a safe, healthy and warm environment for students and employees. This project is supported by Philip Morris Management Services B.V. Representative Office in Moldova.

Crio-Inform NGO

\$3,000.00

Moldova (Edinet District)

12/10/08 - 5/15/09

To assist the village of Criva in repairing damages incurred during the floods in the summer of 2008. The grantee will repair a 3-km stretch of road of considerable importance to villagers, restoring easy access to neighboring forests and private agricultural land plots. This project is supported by Philip Morris Management Services B.V. Representative Office in Moldova.

Center for Analysis and Prevention of Corruption

\$24,128.80

Moldova (Chisinau City)

12/22/08 - 7/07/09

To provide free legal assistance to individuals, NGOs, and journalists on election-related issues. The grantee will open a hotline on legal counsel and have lawyers present at appellate proceedings to assist all interested non-partisan groups during the electoral campaign and Election Day. The project will ensure that breach of law, especially violations of the election code, are reported and settled through appropriate legal means. The project has received financial support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Association of Independent Press

\$11,410.00

Moldova

12/22/08 - 5/05/09

To comprehensively monitor electoral coverage by 16 national and local news publications. The results will be published in bi-weekly and final reports and presented to domestic and international stakeholders. The project will independently analyze print media coverage of the 2009 parliamentary elections and advocate balanced reporting. The project is co-funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida/Asdi) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

AO PROMO-LEX

\$14,941.00

Moldova

3/06/09 - 6/05/09

To promote free and fair elections in Moldova by monitoring the 2009 parliamentary elections in the breakaway Transnistrian region. The grantee will monitor the behavior of election overseers,

electoral candidates and the media. The results will be published in periodic reports and presented to domestic and international audiences.

NGO Institute for Democracy in Comrat

\$9,241.00

Moldova

4/01/09 - 7/31/09

To promote anticorruption at the University level. To assist in this process, the grantee seeks to decrease corruption at Taraclia State University. The grantee will promote a course on anticorruption to Social Assistance faculty at Taraclia State University. Additionally, the grantee will organize education and outreach activities to inform teachers and students about the negative consequences of corruption and encourage them to report incidences of it. This project will raise general awareness of corruption issues, decreasing tolerance for corruption among students and teaching staff in Taraclia State University.

University Legal Clinic from Balti

\$14,121.35

Moldova

4/01/09 - 7/31/09

To provide anticorruption education to college students and to decrease corruption at Balti State University. The grantee will develop a new course on corruption at Balti State University and promote it to the school's Department of Law in addition to other faculties; furthermore, the grantee will organize some education and outreach activities to inform teachers and students of the negative consequences of corrupt activity, encouraging them to report incidences of it. This project will raise general awareness of corruption issues, decreasing tolerance for corruption among students and teaching staff in Balti State University.

Russia

Strengthening Russian Local Media and Linking Them to Their Communities

Russia

\$679,338.00

10/20/08-12/17/10

To support small-market independent media in Russia and assist them with establishing better communication with their audiences through new media. In cooperation with its Russian partner, New Eurasia Foundation, EF aims to strengthen small-market media outlets by providing extensive consultations and comprehensive training on financial management and journalism quality. This program will also strengthen ties between media organizations and the communities they serve through online interactive community journalism and broadcasting. Finally, editors, journalists and broadcasters across targeted communities will build links with each other through virtual networks. As a result of the program activities, EF expects to increase the capacity of media outlets to communicate with the communities they serve, and to deliver high quality journalism to those audiences.

Mikhaylin Vadim Yurievich

\$1,641.00

Russia

10/06/08 - 3/31/09

1 month scholarship at the St. John's College, Oxford (December 1-22, 2008)

Shaydorova Natalia

\$1,115.15

Russia

10/28/08 - 5/30/09

1 month scholarship at St. John's College (January 5-31, 2009)

East Europe Foundation (EEF)

\$3,257.33

Ukraine (Kharkov Oblast)

3/31/08 - 9/30/08

Makaryuk Alexander

\$2,381.76

Russia

10/15/08 - 12/31/09

Children's travel to Sochi (20-25 October, 2008)

Shigapova Olga

\$2,305.63

Russia

10/15/08 - 12/31/09

Children's travel to Sochi (20-25 October, 2008)

Kopytina Natalia

\$2,305.63

Russia

10/15/08 - 12/31/09

Children's travel to Sochi (20-25 October, 2008)

Klimova Tatiana

\$2,305.63

Russia

10/15/08 - 12/31/09

Children's travel to Sochi (20-25 October, 2008)

Ivannikova Marina

\$2,305.63

Russia

10/15/08 - 12/31/09

Children's travel to Sochi (20-25 October, 2008)

Zavyalova Irina

Russia

Children's travel to Sochi (20-25 October, 2008)

\$2,305.63

10/15/08 - 12/31/09

Katyukova Elena

Russia

Children's travel to Sochi (20-25 October, 2008)

\$2,305.63

10/15/08 - 12/31/09

Tajikistan

Public Association "Nurafshon"

\$14,216.00

Tajikistan (Khatlon Oblast)

4/01/08 - 3/31/09

To improve conditions for administrative and ecological migrants in the Nosir Khursrav District of Khatlon Oblast. The grantee will train women in the production of artisan crafts and business skills, and will organize a visit by district artisans to the Central Asian Crafts Support Association in Kyrgyzstan in order to facilitate the establishment a partnership with the association. As a result of the project, artisans will be able to produce folk crafts and more effectively profit from them, which in turn will increase their incomes.

PU Association Woman and Society

\$36,067.00

Tajikistan

2/01/09 - 3/31/10

To facilitate the free movement of goods across the borders of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, by reducing the difficulties faced by entrepreneurs and shuttle traders, especially women during crossing borders and engaging in cross-border trade. Project activities will consist of five interrelated stages: survey, capacity building and trainings/workshops, interim assessment, post-project evaluation and elaboration of recommendations. Based on the survey the project implementer will develop recommendations and an action plan for removing administrative and not administrative barriers for doing cross-border business. Within the framework of the project there will be workshops and trainings on increasing awareness of entrepreneurs (about 400 participants) about procedures of cross-border trade.

Ukraine

Council of Leninskaya Veterans' Organization of Poltava City \$12,443.12

Ukraine (Poltava Oblast)

11/01/08 - 4/14/09

To increase senior citizens' quality of life and access to municipal services. The grantee will establish a senior center at the Leninskyi district office of social services in the city of Poltava as well as organize activity clubs, host lectures and discussions as well as offering counseling on rehabilitation and social issues to the senior community. As part of EEF's Community Centers for People in Need program, this project is co-funded by Norwegian telecommunications company Telenor with support from the Leninskiy District Department of Labor and Social Protection.

Sokal Rayon Association of People with Disabilities

\$15,368.32

Ukraine (Lvov Oblast)

10/01/08 - 3/31/09

To provide job skills for disabled people through a non-profit consulting and information center. The grantee will renovate, equip, make wheelchair-accessible and launch an information center and provide training in job-search skills, employee rights and entrepreneurship. Additionally, the grantee will research the job market for the target audience. The grantee will also produce promotional materials and raise public awareness of project activities. The project, co-funded by Norwegian telecommunications company Telenor, will improve the quality of life for disabled people and provide a model that could be replicated by similar agencies elsewhere.

Pustomyty Rayon Association of People with Disabilities

\$13,945.73

Ukraine (Lvov Oblast)

10/15/08 - 3/31/09

To provide job-skill training for the disabled through the creation of an employment information and consultation Center. The grantee will equip and launch the center and, additionally, produce informational materials about its activities. The center will host training sessions on entrepreneurship, sewing, hairdressing, computer and other vocational skills. To facilitate employment, the grantee will create a database of vacancies and job seekers. The project, which is co-funded by Norwegian telecommunications company Telenor, seeks to improve the quality of life for disabled people and provide a model for other cities.

Club Socis

\$15,312.98

Ukraine (Lvov Oblast)

10/01/08 - 7/16/09

To increase the quality of life for disabled people through targeted job training. The grantee will organize professional training in electrical engineering and textiles, offer classes on entrepreneurship, address the creation of social enterprise and a tourism sub-sector for the handicapped and provide employment counseling. In partnership with a local employment center, the grantee will also organize a roundtable and job fair for people with disabilities as well as produce promotional materials and raise public awareness of project activities. The project, co-funded by Norwegian telecommunications company Telenor, will improve the quality of life for disabled people and provide a model that could be replicated by similar agencies elsewhere.

Eidos International Charity Foundation

\$6,132.21

Ukraine (Kiev City)

2/01/09 - 3/31/09

To create a website and online store purveying artwork made of used packages by Ukrainian artists. The grantee will foster dialogue on world recycling practices during a series of lectures, as well as

placing advertisements in metro stations, distribute fliers and hang posters in universities. The project seeks to make Ukrainian youth more conscious of and responsible for the environment.

Red Cross of Ukraine, Zaporizhia Oblast Organization

\$10,978.57

Ukraine (Zaporozhye Oblast)

3/17/09 - 9/17/09

East Europe Foundation is proud to announce a project designed to improve the quality of life and access to social services for senior citizens. The grantee will establish a senior center at the Khortytsky District Office of Social Services in the city of Zaporizhia to organize activity clubs, host lectures and discussions and offer rehabilitation and legal counsel to the senior community. Part of EEF's Community Centers for People in Need program in Zaporizhia, this project is co-funded by Slavutich, Carlsberg Group with support from Municipal City Services of Social Assistance in Zaporizhia.

Zaporizhia City Organization of Veterans of Ukraine

\$11,038.96

Ukraine (Zaporozhye Oblast)

3/17/09 - 9/25/09

East Europe Foundation is proud to announce a project designed to improve the quality of life and access to social services for senior citizens. The grantee will establish a senior center at Municipal City Services of Social Assistance in Zaporizhia to organize activity clubs, host lectures and discussions and offer rehabilitation and legal counsel to the senior community. Part of EEF's Community Centers for People in Need program in Zaporizhia, this project is co-funded by Slavutich, Carlsberg Group with support from Municipal City Services of Social Assistance in Zaporizhia.

Charity AIDS - Service Organization "Shans"

\$29,220.91

Ukraine (Dnepropetrovsk Oblast)

2/01/09 - 9/30/09

To conduct a labor force fortification project aimed at promoting broad access to employment for vulnerable youth and foster public-private partnerships to create job opportunities in the city of Kryvyi Rih. The grantee will conduct three training sessions for social workers and one training session at the state employment center to help improve services for orphans. In addition, 60 orphans will take part in an educational program with seven seminars on leadership, life and employment skills. The grantee will publish and disseminate information for vulnerable youth and create a youth coordination committee to serve as a motivational body to stimulate cooperation between NGOs working with vulnerable youth, local government agencies and local employers.

Ternopil Association of Consumers

\$10,296.49

Ukraine (Ternopol Oblast)

3/02/09 - 11/15/09

To provide administrative-reform at the regional level and promote citizen and independent expert participation in the process of administrative-territorial development and implementation. The grantee will form a regional stakeholder group in Ternopil oblast. The grantee will then take an inventory account of community resources in four rayons of the oblast and design an efficient research-based administrative-territorial structure for these rayons. The project results will be discussed with the public during round tables held in the rayons and oblast center and an information campaign will be launched through local media. An analytical brochure with experts' findings and recommendations will be published and disseminated to journalists, experts and local and national governments.

Trostianechchyna Union of Entrepreneurs

\$10,337.92

Ukraine (Sumy Oblast)

3/02/09 - 11/15/09

To provide administrative reform at the regional level and the promote citizen and independent expert participation in the process of administrative-territorial development and implementation. The grantee will form a regional stakeholder group in Sumy oblast, take an inventory account of community resources in four rayons of the oblast, and design an efficient research-based administrative-territorial structure for these rayons. The project results will be discussed with the public during round tables held in the rayons and oblast centers and an information campaign will be launched by way of local media. An analytical brochure with experts' findings and recommendations will be published and disseminated to journalists, experts, and local and national governments. The project is implemented in partnership with the DESPRO project, the Civil Society Institute and funded by the Black Sea Trust.